



Trump campaign takes steps to prevent a challenge within GOP

By ZEKE MILLER and STEVE PEOPLES

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — Worried about a potential Republican primary challenge, President Donald Trump's campaign has launched a state-by-state effort to prevent an intraparty fight that could spill over into the general-election campaign. The nascent initiative has been an intense focus in recent weeks and includes taking steps to change state party rules, crowd out potential rivals and quell any early signs of opposition that could embarrass the president. While any primary challenge would almost certainly be unsuccessful, Trump aides are looking to prevent a repeat of the convention discord that highlighted the electoral weaknesses of Presidents George H.W. Bush and Jimmy Carter in their failed re-election campaigns. To defend against that prospect, Trump's campaign has deployed what it calls an unprecedented effort to monitor and influence local party operations.

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In this Nov. 26, 2018, file photo, President Donald Trump points to a supporter as he departs a rally at the Mississippi Coast Coliseum in Biloxi, Miss.

Associated Press

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In this Jan. 29, 2019, photo, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., speaks to reporters at the Capitol in Washington.

By MARY CLARE JALONICK

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Senate voted Monday to oppose the withdrawal of U.S. troops from Syria and Afghanistan, breaking with President Donald Trump as he calls for a military draw-

Associated Press

down in those countries. Senators voted 70-26 for the amendment sponsored by Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. The measure says the Islamic State group and al-Qaida militants still pose a serious threat to the United States,

Senate breaks with Trump on Afghanistan, Syria withdrawal

and it warns that "a precipitous withdrawal" of U.S. forces from those countries could "allow terrorists to regroup, destabilize critical regions and create vacuums that could be filled by Iran or Russia."

Trump abruptly tweeted plans for a U.S. pullout from Syria in December, arguing that the Islamic State group had been defeated even though his intelligence chiefs have said it remains a threat. Trump also ordered the military to develop plans to remove up to half of the 14,000 U.S. forces in Afghanistan. The strong bipartisan vote comes as Republican sen-

ators have increasingly diverged from Trump on foreign policy. When he introduced the amendment last week, McConnell said "ISIS and al-Qaida have yet to be defeated."

McConnell's amendment, which is nonbinding, would encourage cooperation between the White House and Congress to develop long-term strategies in both nations, "including a thorough accounting of the risks of withdrawing too hastily."

While the majority of senators voted for the amendment, a handful of Republicans voted against it. McConnell's Kentucky

colleague, Republican Sen. Rand Paul said before the vote that "enough is enough" and the money spent on wars should be spent at home.

"I want to compliment President Trump for being bold and brave," Paul said.

Many of the most liberal members of the Senate — including several Democrats who are eyeing presidential runs in 2020 — also voted against the amendment. Sen. Bernie Sanders, I-Vt., and others have agreed with Paul that the United States should withdraw, though they have criticized Trump for his sudden announcement. □

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U.S. Rep. Neal building case to subpoena Trump tax returns

By STEVE LeBLANC

Associated Press

BOSTON (AP) — U.S. House Ways and Means Committee Chairman Richard Neal is moving forward with plans to subpoena President Donald Trump's tax returns.

The Massachusetts Democrat is in the process of consulting with lawyers from the U.S. House and the Joint Committee on Taxation "to determine the appropriate legal steps to go forward with this unprecedented request," William Tranghese, an aide to Neal, said in an email Monday. He added that "a strong case is being built," and Neal "will continue to conduct this process in a judicious, methodical and deliberative manner." He also said Neal believes special counsel Robert Mueller's

investigation should be allowed to continue.

The comments come as billionaire investor and Democratic activist Tom Steyer purchased television ads aimed at pressuring Neal to subpoena Trump's tax returns.

The 30-second ad by Steyer's group, Need to Impeach, urges Neal's constituents to press him to subpoena the returns and vote to start impeachment hearings in the Democratic-controlled House. The group also plans to hold a town hall in Neal's hometown of Springfield on Feb. 12 to talk about the urgency of beginning impeachment efforts.

"The American people need to know what Trump is hiding and Neal has the power to help uncover the truth," Steyer said in a

statement.

The Democrat had earlier said he plans to ask for Trump's tax returns but also hoped Trump would release them voluntarily. Trump broke with decades of precedent by presidential candidates and refused to release his tax returns during his 2016 campaign. He said he was being audited, even though IRS officials have said taxpayers under audit are free to release their returns.

The groups Tax March, Stand Up America, and Indivisible last month sent Neal a letter urging him to immediately seek the documents. They also drafted a letter that they say Neal could send to Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin and IRS Commissioner Charles P. Rettig to request Trump's returns. □



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Lawsuit: Power failure at federal jail a humanitarian crisis

By LARRY NEUMEISTER and
MICHAEL R. SISAK
Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — A week-long power failure at a federal detention center in New York City spawned a humanitarian crisis that left inmates shivering in the dark and without access to visitors on some of the coldest days of the year, advocates said in a lawsuit filed Monday.

The Federal Defenders of New York, a public defender organization, sued the Bureau of Prisons, alleging it violated the constitutional rights of inmates at the Metropolitan Detention Center in Brooklyn by denying legal visits during the outage.

Gov. Andrew Cuomo, a Democrat, and a group of Democratic state lawmakers from the city also chimed in, saying they were also considering suing over conditions at the jail, where more than 1,600 inmates are held.

"We need answers, and we're going to do our damnedest to get to the bottom of what happened," said Sen. Jamaal Bailey, who toured the facility Sunday and said there was no heat on the fourth floor.

The Justice Department said that power was restored around 6:30 p.m. Sunday and that it was working to prevent future problems. The failure resulted from a Jan. 27 fire in an electrical room, the department said.

Just as things were starting to get back to normal, a bomb threat Monday morning led to the evacuation of visitors and contractors, authorities said. No devices were found.

The Justice Department declined to comment on

the lawsuit, which named the Federal Bureau of Prisons and Warden Herman Quay as defendants. Inmates reported little or no heat, little or no hot

water, minimal electricity, and near-total lack of access to some medical services, telephones, televisions, computers, laundry or commissary, the Federal Defenders lawsuit said.

Defense lawyers were not able to visit inmates during the ordeal. Lawyer visits had also been significantly curtailed during the recent 35-day partial government shutdown, inmate advocates say.

Correctional officers wore scarves and layers of clothing, while inmates had short-sleeve shirts and light cotton pants on, the lawsuit said. Inmates also reported smelling noxious fumes and seeing corrections officers wearing masks even though none were supplied

to inmates, the lawsuit said. The lawsuit called for the appointment of a special master to inspect the lockup and for unspecified damages.

in the city hit a low of 2 degrees (-16 Celsius) on Jan. 31. Protesters gathered outside after news reports that inmates had been without

heat or power for a week. On Sunday, guards drove demonstrators attempting to enter the facility back with pushes and shoves. Witnesses said they also used pepper spray.

A Justice Department spokesman said the Bureau of Prisons is aware of the pepper spray allegations and is looking into it.

The Federal Defenders lawsuit also accused the federal government of making misleading statements to the public and courts about conditions inmates faced. And it said jail officials were largely unresponsive when lawyers sought information about "troubling reports" by inmates. The New York Civil Liberties Union, which has advocated for inmates but is not involved in the lawsuit, criticized federal officials for a lack of "honesty and transparency as to what happened."

"This is a standard Trump Administration response talking out of both sides of their mouths and not worrying about the truth and not worrying about people's lives," NYCLU Executive Director Donna Lieberman said.

"They denied there was a problem," she said. "They either failed to grasp or they failed to care about the severity of this humanitarian crisis."

Deirdre von Dornum, attorney-in-chief of the federal defenders office, said she found the facility to be "very cold" when she toured Friday, contradicting Quay's upbeat report about the conditions for inmates.

Some inmates received only cold food for days after the fire, von Dornum found, according to the lawsuit, and lighting outages left some cells in the dark.

She also encountered inmates who reported untreated serious medical conditions and said they had not received clean clothing or bedding since the fire, forcing one inmate to sleep on bloody bedding, the lawsuit said. □



This Jan. 8, 2017 file photo shows the Metropolitan Detention Center (MDC) in the Brooklyn borough of New York.

Associated Press

The Bureau of Prisons disputed allegations that inmates didn't have access to hot water. The agency said that the facility's boiler was not affected by the power failure and remained functional, and that inmates had hot water for showers and in the sinks in their cells. U.S. Rep. Jerry Nadler, who toured the jail over the weekend, said problems arose because the boiler is old and antiquated and couldn't keep the entire facility warm on the coldest of days. The temperature

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Trump campaign takes steps to prevent a challenge within GOP

Continued from Front

It has used endorsements, lobbying and rule changes to increase the likelihood that only loyal Trump activists make it to the Republican nominating convention in August 2020.

Bill Stepien, a senior adviser to the Trump campaign, calls it all a "process of ensuring that the national convention is a television commercial for the president for an audience of 300 million and not an internal fight."

One early success for Trump's campaign was in Massachusetts, where Trump backer and former state Rep. Jim Lyons last month defeated the candidate backed by Massachusetts Republican Gov. Charlie Baker, a Trump critic, to serve as the state party chairman.

"We have a constant focus on tracking everything regarding this process," Stepien said. "Who's running, what their level of support for the president is and what their vote counts are."

The campaign's work extends beyond state party leadership races, which are taking place in many key states in the coming weeks. Trump's team plans to organize at county and state caucuses and conventions over the next 18 months to elevate pro-Trump leaders and potential delegates. Ahead of the convention, it aims to have complete control of the convention agenda, rules and platform — and to identify any potential trouble-makers well in advance.

That sort of organization is a leap from Trump's 2016 delegate operation, which faced challenges by anti-Trump activists in the party. Trump aides say it's the



In this Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019 file photo, President Donald Trump speaks to reporters onboard Air Force One, on his way back to the White House in Washington from a weekend at his Mar-a-Lago estate in Palm Beach, Fla.

most aggressive effort ever launched to protect an incumbent.

Nick Trainer, a White House veteran named last month as the campaign's director of delegates and party organization, is leading a team of three to coordinate with state and local parties in the run-up to the convention.

"They're not talented, but they're not idiotic. They rightfully understand that he could be badly damaged or lose in a nomination battle. They're doing too much. It looks weak," said John Weaver, a senior adviser to former Ohio Gov. John Kasich, one of the few high-profile Republicans seriously contemplating a primary challenge.

Trump's campaign is closely monitoring the intentions of Kasich and other potential primary challengers, and aides said they expect someone to mount a campaign for the nomination. But they insist their efforts are not borne out of fear that Trump is vulnerable.

Primary challenges against incumbent presidents have never been successful in the modern era. And Trump's poll numbers among Republican voters have proven to be resilient. Still, his aides said they are taking lessons from one-term leaders who lost their re-elections after embarrassing nominating fights.

Those in the past who challenged a president both distracted the incumbent from the November campaign and offered a voice to intraparty discontent, seeding weaknesses that were exploited by a general-election rival.

Pat Buchanan's campaign against Bush in 1992 focused in part on highlighting Bush's broken pledge not to raise taxes, a vulnerability that dogged Bush throughout the campaign. In a show of party unity Buchanan was awarded the opening night keynote at that year's GOP convention. He delivered a "culture war" speech that Bush loyalists believed contrib-

uted to his loss.

As an incumbent, Trump already wields control over the Republican National Committee, which voted last month to express its "undivided support" for Trump and his "effective presidency." But he's getting a boost from well-placed allies at the state level.

In Iowa, the state Republican Party adopted new rules more than a year ago to seize control of the delegate selection process in direct response to the messy convention floor fight in Cleveland in 2016. Virtually all of Iowa's delegates had preferred Texas Sen. Ted Cruz, and they fought unsuccessfully to oppose Trump at the convention.

"It was embarrassing. It was troubling. To be honest with you, it made me mad," said Iowa GOP Chairman Jeff Kaufman, a strong Trump supporter. "Donald Trump won the Republican nomination fair and square. That was about people not accepting a loss."

The new rules, made in

consultation with the White House, would make it much more difficult for a Trump challenger to install anti-Trump delegates after the caucuses. Smart campaigns with energized activists, like Cruz's and Ron Paul's before him, had been able to send their own loyalists to the national convention regardless of the wishes of party leaders or caucus voters. No more. Going forward, a nominating committee that's already been named by the pro-Trump state central committee will control the delegate selection process.

Kaufman said that technically, he and the rest of the state GOP would be neutral should Trump face a primary challenge. He makes clear, however, that he's been a strong supporter of the president and doesn't see a serious primary challenge on the horizon. It's much the same in New Hampshire, where party leaders must technically remain neutral to preserve their status as the first-in-the-nation primary. But the Trump campaign backed Saturday's election of new state GOP Chairman Stephen Stepanek, who served as Trump's state co-chairman in 2016.

Stepanek was the preferred choice over former state chair Jennifer Horn, who emerged as an outspoken Trump critic since leaving the chairmanship after the 2016 election.

Meanwhile, states like South Carolina and Kansas are openly discussing cancelling their primaries and caucuses, but the Trump campaign insists it is staying out of those discussions, noting that state parties in some states are required to foot the bill for nominating contests. □

Winter storm dumps rare snow on Seattle as Midwest warms up

SEATTLE (AP) — Winter weather pounded a swath of the U.S. West on Monday, closing schools, snarling traffic and turning coastal cities like Seattle that rarely get much snow unusually white, while the Midwest warmed up from a dangerous blast of cold last week. It comes as parts of California and Montana brace for the threat of mudslides and avalanches and the middle of the country grapples with the fallout from the polar vortex, which is linked to at least 30 deaths in several states.

The Pacific Northwest's first major winter snowstorm hit western Washington hardest, closing numerous schools in Seattle and nearby cities, canceling flights and ferry service, and leading to car crashes but no major injuries.

Snow was heaviest just north and east of Seattle, with 8 to 10 inches (20 to 25 centimeters) in some towns. Temperatures were expected to be 15 degrees lower than normal this week, with lows in the teens, the National Weather Service said.

Some Oregon residents also woke up to several inches of snow in northern coastal communities.

The storm system lingering over the Northwest has sent waves of snow into the Northern Rocky Mountains, where it mixed with a blast of frigid arctic air and gusting winds to create hazardous driving conditions and



Pedestrians huddle against snow and a cold wind Monday morning, Feb. 4, 2019, in Seattle. **Associated Press**

dangerous wind chills 40 degrees below zero and lower.

The cold closed or delayed schools Monday. Much of western and northern Montana will likely see subzero temperatures until at least Wednesday, weather service meteorologist Cody Moldan said.

"We're kind of stuck in a cold pattern," Moldan said. The weather was warmer near Yellowstone National Park, but the fresh snow that fell on the weak snowpack in the mountains near the park led to avalanche warnings. Snow and rain throughout California threatened flash flooding where massive wildfires roared through communities last year and dangerous driving condi-

tions in the latest of a series of storms over the past few days.

Forecasters predicted up to 3 inches (7.5 centimeters) of rain for some parts of Southern California. Officials warned of flash flooding in the Malibu area, where a wildfire destroyed homes and burned hillsides bare. Mud carried

trees and rocks onto many roads, shutting them down. Southeast of Los Angeles, where an August blaze scorched a huge area in the Cleveland National Forest, crews removed debris and deepened a creek bed to help prevent flooding. Residents were urged to prepare to evacuate if there's flash flooding.

The weather service issued a winter storm warning for the Los Angeles and Ventura County mountains through Wednesday, with more than a foot (30 centimeters) of snow expected at higher elevations.

A winter storm that swept across California and Nevada dumped as much as 8 feet (2.5 meters) of snow over the weekend, with much more expected.

In parts of California's Sierra Nevada, officials issued blizzard and avalanche warnings through Monday night, warning that cold conditions in the northern mountain range could become life-threatening as a series of intense storms and powerful winds brought white-out conditions that closed some mountain roads.

Electric-powered commuter trains in the Chicago area were getting back to normal as temperatures moved into the 40s.

The arctic cold played havoc with overhead powerlines and forced the shutdown of two major train lines. □

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U.S. prepares to start building portion of Texas border wall

By NOMAAN MERCHANT

Associated Press

HOUSTON (AP) — The U.S. government is preparing to begin construction of more border walls and fencing in South Texas' Rio Grande Valley, likely on federally owned land set aside as wildlife refuge property. Heavy construction equipment was expected to arrive starting Monday, U.S. Customs and Border Protection said. A photo posted by the nonprofit National Butterfly Center shows an excavator parked next to its property.

Congress last March approved more than \$600 million for 33 miles (53 kilometers) of new barriers in the Rio Grande Valley. While President Donald Trump and top Democrats remain in a standoff over Trump's demand for \$5.7 billion in border wall funding, U.S. Customs and Border Protection has pushed ahead with building what's already funded.

That construction was often described as fencing, and the government funding bill that included construction was supported by some Democrats in the House and Senate. CBP refers to what it plans to build as a



In this July 24, 2014, file photo, a bend in the Rio Grande is viewed from a Texas Department of Public Safety helicopter on patrol over in Mission, Texas.

"border wall system."

According to designs it released in September, CBP intends to build 25 miles (40 kilometers) of concrete walls to the height of the existing flood-control levee in Hidalgo County next to the Rio Grande, the river that forms the U.S.-Mexico border in Texas. On top of the concrete walls, CBP will install 18-foot (5.5-meter) steel posts and clear a 150-foot (45-meter) enforcement zone in front.

Maps released by CBP show construction would cut through the butterfly center, a nearby state park,

and a century-old Catholic chapel next to the river. Many landowners oppose a border wall and have vowed to fight the U.S. government if it tries to seize their property through eminent domain. Court fights over condemning land could take weeks if not months.

CBP said in its statement that it intends to start construction on federally owned land. Environmental advocates expect the government to use land that's part of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge.

The refuge consists of dozens of parcels of land purchased over the last 40 years to create a corridor for endangered species and other wildlife.

The Department of Homeland Security can waive environmental restrictions to construct a border wall and issued its waiver for Hidalgo County in October. A coalition of environmental groups has sued DHS over its use of waivers, arguing that wall construction would endanger ocelots, rare birds and other wildlife that rely on refuge land for habitat. That lawsuit is still

pending.

"Santa Ana was not a big enough refuge to sustain all the wildlife down here," said Jim Chapman, a long-time resident of the Rio Grande Valley and member of the group Friends of the Wildlife Corridor.

The National Butterfly Center released the text of an email sent by an attorney from the U.S. Department of Justice. The lawyer, Cliff Stevens, says in the email that construction will begin in mid-February "on federally owned land east of Bentsen State Park."

Directly east of Bentsen State Park is a refuge tract called El Morillo Banco, which is between the state park and the butterfly center.

DOJ declined to comment on the email, and CBP did not respond to several requests for comment.

Land already in the hands of the government becomes an easier place to start construction quickly, said U.S. Rep. Henry Cuellar, D-Laredo. Cuellar has introduced a proposal that would instruct CBP not to build border walls in several places that have environmental and cultural significance. □

Fate of Mexican drug lord El Chapo now rests with U.S. jury

By TOM HAYS

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — After nearly three months of testimony about a vast drug-smuggling conspiracy steeped in violence, a jury began deliberations Monday at the U.S. trial of the infamous Mexican drug lord Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman.

The day ended without jurors reaching a verdict for Guzman, who faces life in prison if convicted. They were to resume deliberations Tuesday morning.

The jury has heard months of testimony about Guzman's rise to power as the head of the Sinaloa cartel. Prosecutors say he is responsible for smuggling at least 200 tons of cocaine into the United States and



In this courtroom sketch, Joaquin "El Chapo" Guzman, right, is seated at the defense table with his interpreter, in the U.S. trial of the infamous Mexican drug lord, in New York, Monday Feb. 4, 2019.

for a wave of killings in turf wars with other cartels.

Guzman, 61, is notorious for

escaping from prison twice in Mexico. In closing arguments, prosecutor Andrea

Goldberg said he was plotting yet another breakout when he was sent in 2017 to the U.S., where he has been in solitary confinement ever since.

The defendant wanted to escape "because he is guilty and he never wanted to be in a position where he would have to answer for his crimes," Goldberg told the jury. "He wanted to avoid sitting right there. In front of you."

The defense claims Guzman's role has been exaggerated by cooperating witnesses who are seeking leniency in their own cases. In his closing, defense attorney Jeffrey Lichtman assailed the case as a "fantasy" and urged the jury not to believe cooperators who "lie, steal, cheat, deal

drugs and kill people" for a living.

Last week, newly unsealed court papers revealed disturbing allegations not heard by the jury — that Guzman had sex with girls as young as 13.

A Colombian drug trafficker told investigators that the kingpin paid \$5,000 to have the girls brought to him, and that he sometimes drugged them, the papers say.

The start of the proceedings Monday was briefly delayed after two jurors indicated to the judge they were aware of reports about the alleged sex crimes.

He questioned both behind closed doors before allowing them to remain on the jury. □



Firefighters work the scene of a deadly plane crash in the residential neighborhood of Yorba Linda, Calif., Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

Plane breaks apart over California neighborhood, 5 killed

By AMY TAXIN
Associated Press

YORBA LINDA, Calif. (AP)

— Dave Elfver was getting ready to go to a friend's house to watch the Super Bowl when he heard a whining sound in his Southern California neighborhood "like a motorcycle going a hundred miles per hour."

Then, he said, came the explosion from a twin-engine plane that broke apart in flight and crashed, setting a home on fire in the Los Angeles suburb of Yorba Linda, killing five people and injuring two.

"The whole house shook. I thought it was an earthquake, but the whining sound didn't make any sense."

Elfver, 75, said he ran to his backyard and saw a house engulfed in flames. He ran toward it along with a crowd of neighbors, and only then he saw an airplane wing in the street.

"I didn't realize what it was until I ran around the corner," he said Monday.

Across the street, one of the columns of a neighbor's home was collapsed and debris from the plane was strewn throughout the street. Another home had broken windows.

The four people on the ground who died were all in the house that burned. The pilot was also killed and was the only person on the plane, Orange County Sheriff's Lt. Cory Martino

told reporters.

Martino said the dead occupants of the home were two males and two females but he did not further identify them.

The Cessna 414A, which can carry up to eight people, took off from the Fullerton Municipal Airport about 12 miles (19 kilometers) west of the blaze, Federal Aviation Administration spokesman Allen Kenitzer said.

According to preliminary radar data, the plane reached an altitude of about 7,800 feet (2,377 meters) and then made a rapid descent, said Elliott Simpson, an aviation accident investigator with the National Transportation Safety Board.

The debris field spanned about four blocks, he said. The main cabin of the airplane and one engine came to rest at the bottom of a ravine in the backyard of a house and the other engine landed on a street, creating a hole, Simpson said.

"During the impact sequence one house caught fire and that's where we have the four fatalities," he said.

It was not immediately clear what set the two-story house ablaze. The property where the fuselage ended up is about three houses down from the home that burned.

Aerial footage from news helicopters showed plane parts, including side panels

and a propeller, scattered on rooftops and driveways near the burned house. Shawn Winch, 49, said he was out in his backyard when he heard a loud sound.

"It sounded like a missile coming at my house," he said.

He said he saw the plane veer off and debris falling. "It wasn't intact," he said of the plane as it was coming toward the neighborhood. "It was already breaking up."

The crash sent panicked neighbors into the streets. Some tried to run into the flaming house but explosion sounds came from its garage and other neighbors called them off, Winch said.

"It was a boom. It sounded like something exploded. It shook our house," said John Wolbart, who lives a block away.

He said he ran to the burning house and saw a woman

come out with singed hair. The injured were taken to a hospital with burns, said Pokey Sanchez, an assistant chief with the Orange County Fire Authority. A firefighter was also treated for a minor injury.

Clint Langford, who lives about a half-mile (0.8 kilometer) away, said he was in his living room when he heard a low rumbling.

"It's the eerie, low rumbling sound that keeps getting lower and louder. It was scary," he said. "And then all of a sudden boom. It shook the house."

He looked out his front door and could see plane parts falling out the sky in the distance.

Pat Rogers, who lives about a mile (1.6 kilometers) from the crash site, told the Orange County Register he saw the plane on fire and coming apart.

Video posted on Twitter showed panicked residents running to the house as it

became engulfed in flames and dark smoke. One man used a garden hose to douse a burning wing that landed on the street.

Catherine Paulson, 78, said she considered herself lucky because she was not home when the debris crashed down and a piece of the plane landed in a tree right above her roof. "It's just devastating," she said.

The National Transportation and Safety Board will investigate the cause of the crash.

Simpson said it will take some time to determine the maintenance history of the aircraft, which was built in 1981.

Representatives of the manufacturers of the airframe and engines were expected on the scene Monday.

The wreckage will be transported to Phoenix, Arizona, for a forensic examination, Simpson said. □

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Canada prosecutor: Serial killer staged photos of victims

By ROB GILLIES

Associated Press

TORONTO (AP) — Serial killer Bruce McArthur staged photos of some of his victims after they died, posing corpses in fur coats and cigars in their mouths, a prosecutor said Monday as the sentencing hearing began for the former gardener who preyed on men from Toronto's Gay Village district.

Prosecutor Michael Cantlon said McArthur would later access some of the photos long after the killings. The prosecution didn't display the images found on McArthur's electronic devices during the session, but said they included after-death photos of six of the eight victims.

"Victims were posed naked, with cigars in their mouth, shaved, and/or made to wear a fur coat and hat," Cantlon said. He also said police found a naked man handcuffed to the bed when they raided McArthur's home and arrested him Jan. 18, 2018. He said police moved in when they realized McArthur had someone over. The man, who survived, was identified only as Middle Eastern and named "John."

Investigators found McArthur had a USB drive that contained a directory with nine subfolders — eight for the men he killed and the ninth for the man found at the time of McArthur's arrest, Cantlon said.

McArthur pleaded guilty on Jan. 29 to eight counts of first-degree murder. He



In this July 5, 2018, file photo, members of the Toronto Police Service excavate the back of a property in Toronto during an investigation in relation to alleged serial killer Bruce McArthur.

Associated Press

sexually assaulted, killed and dismembered men he met in Toronto's Gay Village district over seven years. He faces a potential sentence of life in prison with no chance for parole for 25 years or more. The judge said he expects to hand down a sentence this week.

Police narrowed a list of suspects in the case after seeing surveillance video of the last victim, Andrew Kinsman, enter a red Dodge Caravan in 2017. They later linked that vehicle to McArthur and found Kinsman's blood and semen in it after McArthur sold it to a wreck yard.

Photos in McArthur's devices showed he had known Kinsman at least a decade.

Investigators found Kinsman's calendar with an entry titled "Bruce" dated June 26, 2017 — the day he disappeared.

Cantlon has said the cases ranging from 2010 to 2017 and a frequent site of the killings was McArthur's bedroom. He said the bodies were dismembered and hidden in large planters at a home that McArthur used for his landscaping business. Several of the victims were strangled.

McArthur, now 67, moved to the Toronto area around 2000 and previously lived in a suburb where he was married, raised two children and worked as a traveling salesman of underwear and socks.

His landscaping business

was small, but he periodically hired workers, including a 40-year-old man who disappeared in 2010.

The victims fit a pattern: Most were of Middle Eastern or South Asian descent and lived on the margins of Canadian society. Their disappearances attracting little attention.

"Many of the victims had ties to Toronto's LGBT village and had a social life within that community. Many met or corresponded with Mr. McArthur through dating apps," Cantlon said. "Some were forced to live parts of their life in secret because of their orientation. Some lacked stable housing."

"There is evidence that Mr. McArthur sought out and

exploited these vulnerabilities to continue his crimes undetected," the prosecutor said.

One victim hid the fact that he was gay from his Muslim family. Another was a recent immigrant with a drug problem. Another was a refugee who was ordered deported. Another alleged victim was homeless, smoked crack cocaine and worked as a prostitute. But then Kinsman vanished. The 49-year-old LGBTQ activist and former bartender in Toronto had many friends. When he suddenly went missing the day after Toronto's gay pride parade, his friends noticed quickly, and so did the police, who set up another task force to look into disappearances in the Gay Village.

McArthur pleaded guilty to killing Kinsman, Selim Esen, Majeed Kayhan, Dean Lisowick, Soroush Mahmudi, Skandaraj Navaratnam, Abdulbasir Faizi and Kirushna Kanagaratnam.

"For years, members of the LGBT community in Toronto believed they were being targeted by a killer," Cantlon said. "They were right."

Cantlon said most of the killings were facilitated under the pretense of sex. He said McArthur repeatedly strangled his victims with rope.

The prosecutor said McArthur shaved victims after he killed them and kept some hair stored. He also held onto items belonging to them. □



Macedonian Prime Minister Zoran Zaev addresses the media during a joint press conference with Austria's Chancellor Sebastian Kurz at the federal chancellery in Vienna, Austria, Wednesday, Jan. 30, 2019.

Associated Press

Macedonia's leader hopes EU membership talks start in June

Associated Press

SOFIA, Bulgaria (AP) — Macedonia's prime minister says he hopes his country can launch membership talks with the European Union in June now that an agreement to end a dispute with Greece has been ratified.

Zoran Zaev negotiated a deal with his Greek coun-

terpart last year that called for Macedonia to be renamed North Macedonia in return for Greece lifting objections to its neighbor joining NATO and the EU.

Zaev's government is set to sign NATO accession protocols under the name North Macedonia on Wednesday. If the membership process is completed, the

country would be NATO's 30th member.

Zaev addressed joining the EU while in Bulgaria, which already belongs to NATO and the EU.

In the capital of Sofia on Monday, Zaev met Bulgarian Prime Minister Boyko Borissov, who proposed eliminating bilateral trade tariffs. □

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PIEDRA PLAAT 5 K  REDUCED 3 Bed - 2 Bath, Swimming-pool New, Garage, Fully Furnished land: 472 m ² / 5,081 Ft ² Home: 140 m ² / 1,507 Ft ² Afl 639.000 \$ 359.000	TANQUI LEENDERT 139  4 Bed - 3 Bath, Fully Furnished Full renewed, Gourmet Kitchen land: 414 m ² / 4,456 Ft ² Home: 230 m ² / 2,476 Ft ² Afl 668.000 \$ 375.000	PALM BEACH 320  4 Bed - 3 Bath, w/guest casita Hotel area, Fully Furnished land: 520 m ² / 5,597 Ft ² Home: 250 m ² / 2,691 Ft ² Afl 801.000 \$ 450.000	PARADERA 179 G  3 Houses in One, over 489m ² of Land H.1: 2Bed - 2Bath; 130m ² /1400Ft ² H.2: 2Bed - 2Bath; 103m ² /1109Ft ² H.3: 2Bed - 2Bath, 130m ² /1400Ft ² Afl 850.000 \$ 478.000	LAS CAMPEONAS 1  SOLD 3 Bed - 3 Bath, Swimming-pool Tierra del Sol, Garage, Furnished land: 627 m ² / 6,749 Ft ² Home: 180 m ² / 1,937 Ft ² Afl 935.000 \$ 525.000

Puigdemont says Catalan trial 'vengeance'

By RENATA BRITO

JOSEPH WILSON

Associated Press

WATERLOO, Belgium (AP) —

The leader of Catalonia's failed secession bid in 2017 says that Spain will seek "vengeance" rather than justice when 12 of his separatist allies stand trial next week accused of rebellion and other charges.

Carles Puigdemont, who will follow the trial from self-imposed exile in Belgium, accused EU countries of double standards for recognizing Venezuelan opposition leader Juan Guaidó as that country's interim president, while ignoring his attempt to declare independence for Catalonia.

"I was elected by a democratically impeccable parliament as president and I was sacked by a man who now only has four members of the regional parliament in Catalonia," Puigdemont told The Associated Press on Sunday, referring to former Spanish Prime Minister Mariano Rajoy. "This double standard is shameful for Europe."

The former Catalan regional president slipped out of Spain after the government removed him from office following the regional parliament's declaration of independence on Oct. 27, 2017. Twelve other separat-



In this photo taken on Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, former regional Catalan President Carles Puigdemont speaks during an interview with The Associated Press at Puigdemont's residence in Waterloo, near Brussels, after he fled from Spain to avoid arrest following Catalonia's failed secession bid in 2017.

Associated Press

ists will go on trial in Spain's Supreme Court on Feb. 12 on charges including rebellion and sedition.

"We are all supporting them, helping them because they are suffering a terribly unjust and humiliating situation and being used to set an example," Puigdemont said in the interview in the Belgian town of Waterloo, south of Brussels.

The trial, he said, "will not be an act of justice but rather one of vengeance." Spanish Supreme Court President Carlos Lesmes has dismissed such claims, insisting the trial will follow the "highest standards set by the European Union."

He recently told foreign journalists that discrediting the Spanish judiciary "is part of the defense's strategy of advancing its political interests."

The trial will be broadcast on TV from Madrid. A request by defense lawyers to have Puigdemont testify via video conference was refused. Instead, he will watch the proceedings from his home in Waterloo, a two-story brick house bordered by trimmed hedges. The lease is paid for by private donations, according to Puigdemont. A plaque on the front door reads "The House of the Republic." Inside, the walls are covered with artwork ex-

alting Catalonia's struggle for independence and in a corner of the living room stands an empty ballot box used in the referendum.

Puigdemont said that what he expects will be a guilty verdict for his fellow separatists, including members of his defunct Cabinet, would only provide momentum to the separatist movement, which he predicted would gain the support of a clear majority of Catalans.

"That moment will arrive and when it does we will have all the legitimacy to take the decisions that we have already decided in parliament and have ratified in a plebiscite," he said, adding that the declaration of independence was still valid.

"So we are on this path and don't let anyone forget it because despite the inconveniences, it is valid and it can be activated when we have the conviction and the certainty that it should be," he said.

The "yes" vote won in a landslide in the October 2017 referendum, during which hundreds of people were injured in a police crackdown. But those in favor of remaining with Spain largely stayed home, and Spain's central government declared the vote il-

legal and unconstitutional. Subsequent regional elections indicated that Catalonia is evenly split between those in favor and those against independence.

Traveling around Europe to drum up support for his cause, Puigdemont was arrested in Germany on a European warrant issued by Spain last March. A German court, however, ruled it would only extradite him on charges of misuse of public funds to hold the referendum, not the more serious charge of rebellion. That led a Spanish judge to withdraw the arrest order for Puigdemont in July, along with five other separatists who fled Spain.

Puigdemont said he wouldn't be surprised if Spain reactivated the European arrest warrant after the trial concludes, saying "we take it for granted" and are prepared to fight it. The alternative, however, is to remain far from his wife and two young daughters, who visit him but continue to live in northeastern Spain.

"To let me rot in exile so that nobody listens to me, that too is a kind of punishment," he said. "(But) the best case scenario is that they don't extradite me. I am going to spend many years here." □

Iraqi president hits back at Trump over US army presence

By QASSIM ABDUL-ZAHRA

Associated Press

BAGHDAD (AP) — Iraq's president hit back at Donald Trump Monday for saying U.S. troops should stay in Iraq to keep an eye on neighboring Iran, saying the U.S. leader did not ask for Iraq's permission to do so.

"We find these comments strange," said Barham Salih, speaking at a forum in Baghdad.

Trump's comments added to concerns in Iraq about America's long-term intentions, particularly after it withdraws its troops from Syria. Trump has angered Iraqi politicians and Iranian-backed factions by arguing he would keep U.S. troops in Iraq and use it as a base to strike Islamic State group targets inside Syria as needed.

In an interview with CBS News' "Face the Nation," he said U.S. troops in Iraq were also needed to monitor Iran.

"He didn't ask Iraq about this," Salih said Monday. He said U.S. troops were in Iraq as part of an agreement between the two countries with a specific mission of assisting in the fight against the Islamic State group and combatting "terrorism." He



In this Oct. 11, 2018 file photo, Iraqi President Barham Salih waves goodbye to Turkish Foreign Minister Mevlut Cavusoglu, after their meeting in Baghdad, Iraq.

Associated Press

said the Iraqi constitution forbids the use of Iraq as a base to threaten the interests or security of neighboring countries.

In the CBS interview, Trump said the U.S. has an "incredible base" in Iraq that he intends to keep, "because I want to be able to watch Iran."

"We spent a fortune on building this incredible base," Trump said. "We might as well keep it. And one of the reasons I want to keep it is because I want to be looking a little bit at Iran because Iran is a real problem."

He said the U.S. base in Iraq is "perfectly situated for

looking at all over different parts of the troubled Middle East."

He appeared to be referring to the Al-Asad air base in western Iraq, where he paid a brief visit to U.S. forces in December. The base hosts American troops but belongs to the Iraqi army.

Trump's comments appear to have further inflamed tensions in Iraq over the continued presence of U.S. troops after the defeat of the Islamic State group. Curbing foreign influence has become a hot-button issue in Iraq after parliament elections in May in which Shiite militias backed by Iran made significant

gains. The militias fought alongside U.S.-backed Iraqi troops against IS in recent years, gaining outsized influence and power along the way.

Now, after defeating IS militants in their last urban bastions, Iraqi politicians and militia leaders are increasingly speaking out against the continued presence of U.S. forces on Iraqi soil.

Trump has said he has no plans to withdraw the 5,200 troops in Iraq, which he says could carry out U.S. airstrikes inside Syria after American troops withdraw from that country.

American forces withdrew from Iraq in 2011, but returned in 2014 at the invitation of the government to help battle IS after it seized vast areas in the north and west of the country, including Iraq's second largest city, Mosul. A U.S.-led coalition provided crucial air support as Iraqi forces regrouped and drove IS out in a costly three-year campaign.

Earlier this month, the leader of one of Iraq's most powerful Iranian-backed Shiite militias told The Associated Press in an interview that he expects a vote in the coming months by Iraq's parliament call-

ing for the withdrawal of U.S. troops. Qais al-Kazali, head of Asaib Ahl al-Haq, or League of the Righteous, also suggested U.S. troops may eventually be driven out by force if they do not yield to the will of the Iraqi people.

Former Prime Minister Haider al-Abadi also weighed in on Monday, saying Iraqi sovereignty must be respected and its interests should not be compromised.

Separately, the president of the International Committee of the Red Cross, Peter Maurer, said Monday that the safe and voluntary return of hundreds of thousands of displaced Iraqis is key to ensuring that the country can leave its violent past behind.

Maurer spoke at a press conference in Baghdad at the end of a four-day visit to the country, which included the northern cities of Mosul and Irbil. Maurer highlighted the extraordinary challenges that communities across the country continue to face, including the fact that 1.8 million people remain displaced within Iraq more than a year after major combat operations ended, with nearly one in three still living in camps. □

Convictions issued over Hungary sludge flood that killed 8

By PABLO GORONDI

Associated Press

BUDAPEST, Hungary (AP) — Two former executives of an alumina plant in Hun-

gary were convicted and sentenced to prison Monday for an industrial disaster that killed eight people and injured more than 220

in flooded towns and villages, a Hungarian court said. Zoltan B., the former CEO of MAL Zrt., received a prison term of 2 ½ years for public endangerment and other crimes, while Jozsef D., a deputy CEO, received a two-year sentence.

On Oct. 4, 2010, a wall of a huge reservoir of the plant collapsed, flooding three towns and villages with about 2 million cubic meters (528 million gallons) of toxic red sludge and water. The highly alkaline mix burned the skin of the victims, some of whom were swept away by the force of the rushing flood and drowned.

One of the victims was 14-months-old.

Eight other people on trial

for the 2010 disaster received suspended prison sentences, fines or reprimands, while the city court in Györ acquitted five. All 15 defendants were acquitted of all charges in 2016, but an appeals court ordered a retrial.

The trial court ruled that MAL Zrt. managers and employees broke numerous rules regarding the storage and handling of the leftover sludge and water from producing alumina, the main raw material for making aluminum.

"The defendants' negligence contributed to the catastrophe, since they did not deal with the warning signs of a possible breach," the court said in a statement.

"And they misled area residents and authorities regarding the true amount and toxicity of water accumulated due to the rule violations, which ultimately became determinant factors of the catastrophe."

The court also said the defendants did not notify authorities or were late doing so regarding the sludge flood and its toxicity. The former CEO also made willfully misleading statements about the dangers of the spill, the court found.

The amount of water stored in the 25-hectare (61.8-acre) reservoir, over 1 million cubic meters (264 million gallons), was more than twice the limit and its toxicity exceeded the permissible level. □



This Wednesday, Oct. 6, 2010 file photo, shows an aerial view of excavators working at a broken dyke of a reservoir that contained red mud of an alumina factory near Ajka, 156 kms southwest of Budapest, Hungary.

Associated Press



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Candidates register for 1st Thai general election since coup

By JERRY HARMER

Associated Press

BANGKOK (AP) — Candidates in Thailand's first general election since the military seized power in 2014 began registering Monday, as supporters waved banners and chanted slogans in political activity that until recently was illegal.

Hundreds of candidates from dozens of parties crammed into an indoor stadium to officially enter the race and draw lots for the numbers that will go alongside their names on the ballot papers for the March 24 election.

Enthusiasm for a return to democracy is high, but is tempered with an awareness that new election rules handicap the political machine of former Prime Minister Thaksin Shinawatra, which has easily won every national election since 2001.

The Thaksin-associated Pheu Thai Party's main



Leader of Pheu Thai party Sudarat Keyuraphan, center, is greeted by supporters as he arrives for the registration of constituency candidates competing in upcoming general election at Thailand-Japan Youth Center stadium in Bangkok, Thailand, Monday, Feb. 4, 2019.

Associated Press

challenger is expected to be the Palang Pracharat Party, widely considered a proxy for the military.

"Yes, we will be among the parties who get the most votes," said Palang Pracharat's secretary-general, Sontirat Sontijirawong.

Following the election, Palang Pracharat is expected to nominate the head of the current mili-

tary government, Prayuth Chan-o-cha, to be the next prime minister. Prayuth, one of three candidates the party has proposed, was army commander when he led the 2014 coup that ousted an elected government formed by Thaksin's sister, Yingluck Shinawatra. Pheu Thai's top pick for prime minister urged the state Election Commission

to keep a close watch on the polls.

"The people have been waiting for this election for eight years," said Sudarat Keyuraphan, referring to the last time an election installed a government. "So this election must be held with freedom, fairness and confidence to make the country move forward."

Prayuth's chances of remaining prime minister are considered good because of elaborate rules for forming the next government.

There are 350 directly elected seats in the new lower house, but another 150 are decided through a complicated system of proportional representation that, roughly speaking, deals out seats in inverse proportion to those a party wins in the constituency vote.

The more of the 350 seats a party wins in the direct vote, the lesser share of the 150 it is rewarded.

The architects of the mili-

tary-endorsed system say it will ensure that lawmakers are drawn from a wide range of parties, thereby bringing many voices into the chamber. Critics say the system is designed to keep any one party from winning a majority, forcing the creation of a coalition government.

An earlier Thai constitution sought to discourage coalition governments to prevent wheeling and dealing in which parties sold their loyalty for Cabinet posts, which perpetuated a political spoils system.

Also, when the newly elected lawmakers meet to choose a prime minister, they will be joined by 250 unelected senators. The senators, who like the military are part of the traditional conservative power structure that opposed Thaksin, almost certainly can muster enough votes to appoint the army-backed candidate. □

Japan, Germany want to curb Brexit's global economic impact

By MARI YAMAGUCHI

Associated Press

TOKYO (AP) — The leaders of Germany and Japan said Monday they will try to minimize the global economic impact from Britain's upcoming departure from the European Union and pledged to defend free trade in the face of rising protectionism. Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe and visiting German Chancellor Angela Merkel urged Britain to avoid a no-deal Brexit. Last Friday, Japan and the EU ushered in a



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, left, and Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe, right, stand together as they observe honor guards ahead of a meeting at Abe's official residence in Tokyo, Monday, Feb. 4, 2019.

Associated Press

landmark trade deal that creates one of the world's largest free trade areas. Combined, the two sides account for almost a third of the world's economy.

"In order to do so, we need to minimize the impact on the global economy from Brexit," Abe said at a joint news conference following their meeting. "We definitely hope (for Britain) to avoid a no-deal Brexit."

Abe told Merkel that their countries' commitment and leadership in defending free trade is extremely

important.

Merkel suggested at the news conference that it's still possible for the EU and Britain to come to an agreement on how the border between Ireland and Northern Ireland will function after Brexit. She said, however, that London needs to come forward with a proposal.

Merkel also joined other European leaders in recognizing opposition leader Juan Guaido as "the legitimate interim president" of Venezuela. □

El Salvador's president-elect to face governing challenges

By MARCOS ALEMAN

Associated Press

SAN SALVADOR, El Salvador (AP) — El Salvador's new president-elect won in resounding fashion, but breaking the three-decade hold on power of the country's two dominant parties means that Nayib Bukele will take office with few friends in congress.

The 37-year-old former mayor has an ambitious agenda, topped by a vow to root out corruption. To accomplish that and many other campaign promises, Bukele will have to find allies who can help.

Bukele won with more than 53 percent of the votes Sunday, topping three rivals. But GANA — the Grand Alliance for National Unity party that he carried to victory — has only 10 seats in the legislature, well short of the 43 votes needed to pass laws. "This new government is going to be weak," said Alvaro Artiga, a professor of political science and sociology at the Jose Simeon Canas Central American University. "It's that institutionally it doesn't have legislative support."

The outgoing Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front, or FMLN, government



Presidential candidate Nayib Bukele, of the Grand Alliance for National Unity, center, his wife Gabriela, right, and the Vice-president candidate Felix Ulloa wave supporters in San Salvador, El Salvador, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019.

had a difficult time of it as a minority presence in the Legislative Assembly, and it had 23 of the 84 seats. And Bukele's promise to establish a commission to investigate official corruption modeled on a U.N.-backed effort in Guatemala is unlikely to win him friends among the FMLN or the conservative Nationalist Republican Alliance, or ARENA. That party itself has 37 deputies and its al-

lied parties have 12 more. Bukele will need to send a message immediately through his cabinet picks that it won't be business as usual, and avoid cronyism, Artiga said. "It can't be the friends, the relatives, all that he has accused the usual suspects of," he said. "He can't repeat that, because people voted as a rejection," Artiga said. Bukele will start his five-year term June 1. El Salva-

dor is small both in size and population, with just 6.5 million people. Close to a third of its households live in poverty, and Salvadorans searching for a better life have joined recent caravans of migrants trekking across Mexico hoping to reach the U.S. Bukele rose quickly through the ranks of the FMLN, a former guerrilla army that transformed itself into a political party after a 1992 peace deal end-

Associated Press

ed the nation's civil war. He first won election as a youthful small-town mayor and then became mayor of San Salvador, the capital. But his persistent criticisms of FMLN leadership got him expelled from the party. Joining GANA — which has been a right-leaning party — was a last-minute move just to get on the ballot. "It was always about the size of the resentment among the urban middle class toward the country's elites," said political analyst and former guerrilla commander Salvador Samayoa. "It was never that he was the best, most honest, most wholesome, most capable candidate." Voters were tired of corruption, the lack of economic opportunities and the persistent violence.

"I voted, everybody in my family voted for Bukele because we're tired of these ARENA and FMLN governments that steal money," said 42-year-old Manuel Lopez as he headed to work Monday. "Nobody believes them."

"Two presidents from ARENA, Paco Flores, Tony Saca and one from FMLN, Mauricio Funes, have stolen everything they could," he said. □

Brazil's Sergio Moro looks to overhaul crime fighting

Associated Press

RIO DE JANEIRO (AP) — Justice Minister Sergio Moro presented an anti-crime bill Monday that seeks to toughen Brazil's approach to organized crime, corruption and violence.

Key measures include obligating convicts to begin serving their sentences after a first appeal is denied, categorizing militias and drug trafficking gangs as organized criminal groups and cracking down on illegal campaign finance.

"We want to be more rigorous with more serious crimes," Moro told reporters after presenting his bill to state governors and key public security officials in Brasilia.

Passing the measure will be



In this Nov. 23, 2018 file photo, former Judge Sergio Moro participates in an anti-corruption conference in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

Associated Press

Moro's first big test since he was named justice minister. The former judge surprised many of his supporters last year when he abandoned

the vast "Car Wash" anti-graft probe he helped create and led for years to join the ranks of far-right President Jair Bolsonaro's

administration. The investigation has put dozens of politicians and business leaders behind bars, including ex-President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva, a fact that somewhat paved the way for Bolsonaro's victory. Now the justice and public security minister, Moro has the task of helping Bolsonaro meet his ambitious campaign promises: fight corruption and put an end to a cycle of violence. In 2017, nearly 64,000 people were killed in Brazil, a record for the country that has long been the world leader in annual homicides. In the 34-page document, which will soon be submitted to congress, Moro targets specific gangs, classifying the Sao Paulo-based

Primeiro Comando da Capital, the country's most powerful gang, Rio de Janeiro's Comando Vermelho and militias as organized crime groups.

During the presidential campaign, Bolsonaro praised police officers who killed criminals during operations and argued they should be decorated, not criminally tried.

Another key measure, one likely to stir a heated debate in congress, is campaign funding and electoral fraud. As cases of under-the-table election funding have multiplied in recent years, Moro proposes to crack down on the use of illegal slush funds, also known in Brazil as "Caixa Dois." □

Island Insight

Aruba's way back in time of the Paleo lithic hunters and gatherers.

Episode IV: Aruba's Paleo lithic hunters and gatherers The people

So that the Paleo Amerindian societies were highly mobile, moving on the earth as well as on the sea (along the coasts). Their material legacy, which includes stone, bone, ivory and wooden works, is indicative of groups with a family, clan or tribal organization, living by hunting, fishing and gathering, but devoting themselves also to artistic and ritualistic activities.



Pic. 1 An student of anatomy and a future osteologists

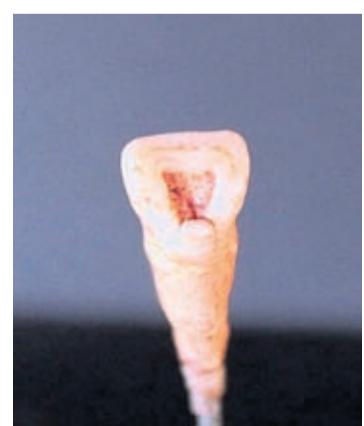
The cultural diversity and similarities of these groups can determine a lot regarding their origin and path used to reach our island. These characteristics were reflected, especially in the way they buried their dead, having distinctive shovel incisor teeth, the shape of their bones- their skulls and their jaws and their tool-making abilities. Because there are a variety of structural and dimensional differences between skulls of different races, careful inspection and measurements have been performed on numerous parts of the skull to aid in an accurate characterization. The length and width of the skull, shape of the eye orbits, the size and shape of the nasal openings, the shape and slope of the nasal bone above the opening, and general slope of the skull from forehead to chin are all important in determining race.

The study of bones or Osteology is the scientific study of our skeleton, practiced by astrologists and a sub discipline of anatomy, anthropology, and archaeology. Osteology is a detailed study of the structure of bones, skeletal elements, teeth, microbone morphology, function, disease, pathology, the process of ossification (from cartilaginous molds), the resistance and hardness of bones (biophysics), etc. often used by scientists with identification of vertebrate remains with regard to age, death, sex, growth, and development and can be used in a bio-cultural context.

Various archaic sites are present on our island. Some are stone quarries, shell maidens and gathering locations, while others where single graves,

family or clan cemeteries and natural shelters. From the burial sites we can obtain a great deal of information regarding these early peoples especially through their bones. One of these single graves site was discovered at Piedra di Warawara, in 1976. Sabania Abao, Santa Cruz Single male shovel incisors, approx. 37 at age of death, laying North beneath a diorite boulder in a crouch position on his right side, cranium resting in right hand, a microscopic red ochre pigment present on skull.

In Canashito, five (5) Paleo Aruban burials were excavated at Seroe Canashito in Aruba by A.D.Rigma in 1950. The bone material, the



Pic. 2. Shovelincisor teeth seen from the back.



Article by Etnia Nativa
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etnianativa03@gmail.com
DESIGN BY STEFFEN HAAS



Pic. 3. Canashito site limestone elevations.

notes and drawings of this relatively well documented investigation were published by Wagenaar Hummlinck (1959) and Tacoma (1959). It is most interesting to compare the drawings made by Rigma with the data of the Malmok burials.

Rigma excavated one cluster of 4 burials, at a distance of 5m from the cluster in a limestone opening. No stones are described to have been found on top of the dead bodies, but skeleton one was associated with a large limestone rock near the cluster of 4 burials, near one particular grave. The deceased were buried in a crouched position. It is interesting to note how they were buried at an angle of 90 degrees. At Malmok cemetery, combinations of 2 graves at cross angles have been attested several times: they always contained a male and a female skeleton. Unfortunately, only the sex of one grave at Canashito is known to be a male and one of the skeletons seemed to be a short person.

Three of the bodies at Canashito had their heads resting in their hands in a similar fashion as most of the dead at the cemetery at Malmok and the grave at Piedra di Warawara. The burial cluster in

Canashito is especially interesting when compared to the cluster of Malmok.

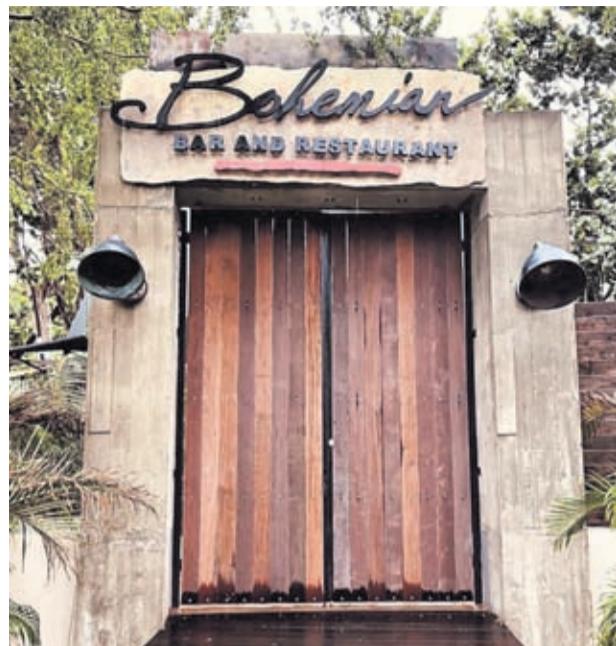
The Malmok site is situated at a distance of 200m South and 300 m North from the sea, parallel to a former salina or salt -lake. The site shares its sandy subsoil with the salt-lake. Limestone is found below the sand in the site. This limestone is part of the Lower Terrace Formation. It was formed during a period of a rising sea level. The limestone emerged by the subsequent lowering of the sea level and tectonic uprising. Most of the area of the Malmok site is flat terrain near the salina. However, some low dunes exist in the western part of the site. A few graves were found in the dunes, at a level slightly above that of the plain. This means that the dunes were already present in the period of the burial activities at Malmok. The burials in the flat section of the site and in the small low dunes and their relationship to the present surface suggest that the surface at Malmok was essentially the same in prehistory as it is today. □

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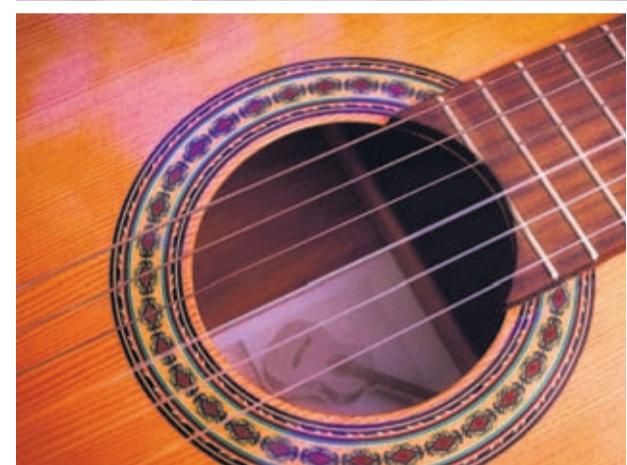
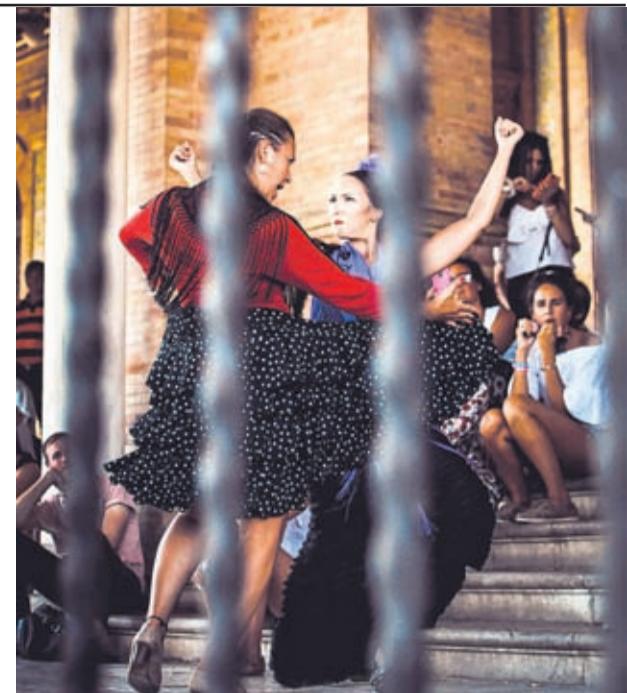
Pic. 3. Diorite rock boulder at Noka Sta. Cruz

Bohemian Restaurant: Check In Please



PALM BEACH — Avant-garde from France, non-conformist in style and ethnic in cuisine. That is what the new kid in town is about and WEDNESDAY NIGHT they even top the eclectic vibe with live Flamenco singer Angela Baidez. Bohemian Restaurant is a different swing, European flair and outside dining, a place from the same owner as the for years already successful Casa Tua restaurants. They know their dance well, but this time they lift it to a different level.

From 8 PM tomorrow night Spanish Paella and much more is on the menu, of course with pairing wines. The beautiful garden of Bohemian will be filled with lights, good food and live music in an intimate, hip and offbeat ambiance. Catchy Rumba Gitana and dramatic Spanish ballads combine with the passionately prepared dishes to tickle your taste buds to the max. Bohemian Restaurant is located on the corner of Barceló



Resort in the center of the hi-rise frenzy. Free Parking available at the parking lot in front of Barcelo Resort. Make your reservations through their website: <https://bohemianaruba.com>. Call them at 00 297 280 8448. Facebook: Bohemian. □



Chinese New Year – The Year of the Pig



ORANJESTAD — The New Year for the Chinese is based on the movement of the moon. Today this is celebrated all over the world and also in Aruba where we have a wide Chinese community. One sixth of the world's people celebrate it.

The Chinese also call it the Spring Festival as the start usually falls after the solar term, so the beginning of spring. In China, each lunar

cycle has 60 years and 12 years is regarded as a small cycle. Each of the 12 years is defined by an animal sign: Rat, Ox, Tiger, Rabbit, Dragon, Snake, Horse, Sheep, Monkey, Rooster, Dog, and Pig. 2019 is the Year of the Pig.

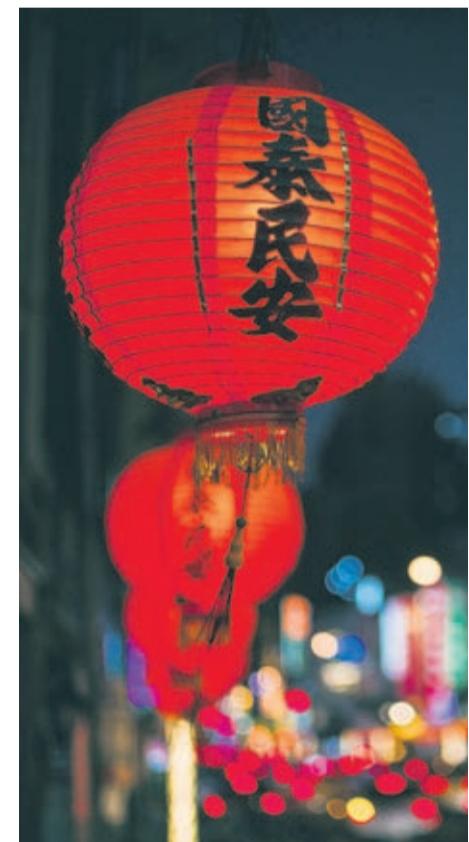
It is not only celebrated in Mainland China, but also observed in Hong Kong, Taiwan, Vietnam, Singapore and some other Asian countries as well as Chinatowns around the world. In China the whole country

is on the move as this is their longest public holiday of 7 to 12 days off the work, students have one month.

A big feat to commemorate is the reunion dinner on the Chinese New Year's Eve and some restaurants in Aruba joined in to this theme with an offering of Chinese buffets. To the Chinese this day means a get-to-gather with the family and after dinner they watch the CCTV New Year's Gala while chatting. After that all families set off fireworks to celebrate the festival. The biggest firework show is on Lunar New Year's Eve. The decorations of the festival are mostly in red and extensive. Red in Chinese culture is the symbol of happiness, wealth and prosperity, and can ward off evil spirits and bring good luck. These red decorations are to the festival what Christmas trees are to Christmas.

Are you planning to celebrate along with the Chinese, than do not forget to wish each other "Guo

Nian Hao", one of the most used greetings meaning Happy New Year". □



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Aruba to Me

ORANJESTAD — We would like to portrait you! By inviting you to send us your favorite vacation picture while enjoying our Happy Island. Complete the sentence: Aruba to me is Send your picture with that text (including your name and where you are from) to: news@arubatoday.com and we will publish your vacation memory.

Isn't that a special way to keep your best moments alive? Please do note: By submitting photos, text or any other materials, you give permission to The Aruba Today Newspaper, Caribbean Speed Printers and any of its affiliated companies to use said materials, as well as names, likeness, etc. for promotional purposes without compensation.

Last but not least: check out our website and Facebook page!

Thank you for supporting our free newspaper, we strive to make you a happy reader every day again.

For today's newspaper we received a great picture from:

Ken Metzger from Clarence New Yory, USA. He wrote:

**Aruba to us is....
Bon cuminda
(good food),
Bon tempo (good weather) and
Bon Amigonan
(good friends).**

Ken & his wife BG have visited Aruba 25 times in the past 15 years and they have fallen in love with the island. They have made many Aruba friends and Ken has been busy learning some Papiamento as you can see. □



The Butterfly Farm flies into its 20th year in Aruba



ORANJESTAD – The tranquil beauty of the Butterfly Farm has been a standout attraction on Aruba for 20 years. Its Palm Beach location sits in contrast to the nearby white sand beach, with the Farm offering a quiet, green environment where beauty is discovered in the diversity, color and graceful flight of hundreds of butterflies. The butterflies will remain the star attraction as the Farm begins its planning of educational activities and a celebratory anniversary event scheduled for later this year.

"We came to Aruba in 1998 with many hopes and dreams, together with a goal of contributing to our new community as a whole. Above all, we wanted to enhance and strengthen Aruba's tourism and its environment at the same time," comments Farm co-founders Tony and Lori Cox on their original vision for the Farm.

Over its 20-year history, the Butterfly Farm has flourished on the philosophy of embracing environmental values. Today, Tony and Lori, together with a talented team of dedicated guides, continue to keep true to their goal of informing and impressing Farm visitors through the simple formula of showcasing the beauty of the natural world.

"Our dreams have been more

than realized and now we want to recognize the extraordinary support we have received from our community during the past two decades.

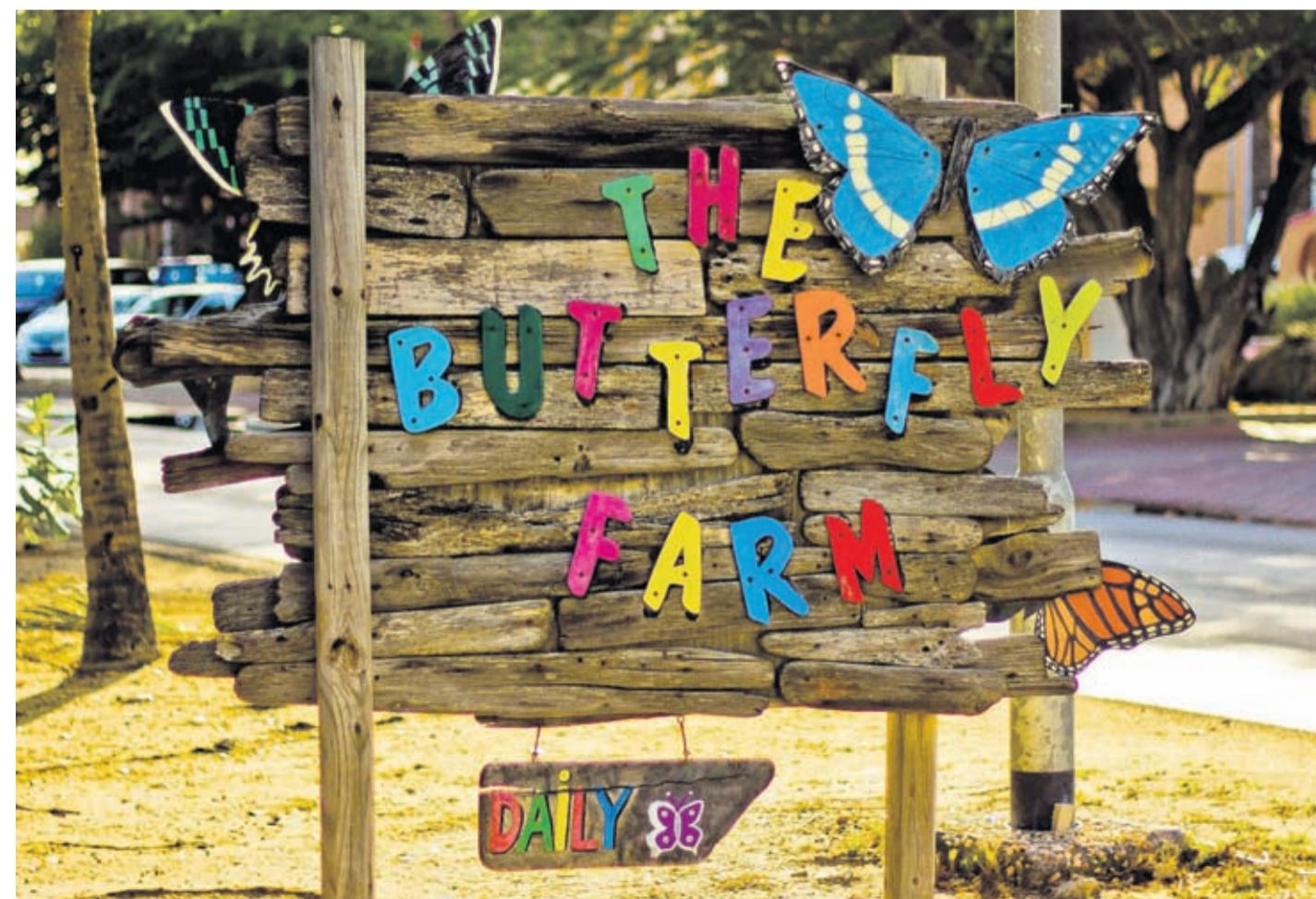
We also want to acknowledge the hundreds of thousands of visitors to Aruba who have embraced us during their vacations here. We thank the many local schools, summer

camps, and special needs groups that have made us a regular excursion destination.

Finally, we want to express our unending gratitude to the many hundreds of employees and volunteers who helped make our dreams come true," explains Tony on what will be at the heart of plans for an

upcoming anniversary event.

The Butterfly Farm will announce details of planned activities in the near future. In the meantime, everyone is encouraged to stop in and visit, or revisit, a favorite Aruba attraction. The Aruba Butterfly Farm is located in Palm Beach, across from the Divi Phoenix. □



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NASCAR tries to end slide with push for more exciting racing

In this Nov. 11, 2018, file photo Kevin Harvick (4) leads the field for the green flag start during a NASCAR Cup Series auto race in Avondale, Ariz.

Associated Press

By JENNA FRYER

AP Auto Racing Writer

CHARLOTTE, N.C. (AP) —

The reset button for NASCAR was triggered as soon as Joey Logano wrapped up last year's championship celebration. There was massive work to be done to stop the stock-car series from a spiral to the bottom and the fix is nothing short of a radical reboot.

The critical change is the introduction of an overhauled rules package designed to make the racing watchable again. And it comes under new leadership at the top.

Jim France replaced his nephew as chairman of NASCAR in August after Brian France took a leave of absence following his arrest for driving while intoxicated and criminal possession of oxycodone. Jim France is

now listed as chairman and CEO, has routinely represented the family at NASCAR events and is addressing NASCAR's five-year freefall in nearly all meaningful categories.

The downturn happened during Brian France's reign, and fans essentially exiled him over his extreme changes to the championship format and his detached — often absent — style of leadership.

Jim France has been at every event since taking over and NASCAR at last is showing a sense of urgency in attempting to fix its mess. "It is a business, but his first love is racing," said Hall of Fame owner Rick Hendrick, who added Jim France and his niece, Lesa France Kennedy, have been accessible to teams and have voiced their commitment

to motorsports. "I wish he had stepped out years ago."

France is overseeing the most collaborative atmosphere in NASCAR history. All stakeholders — the sanctioning body, teams, drivers, track operators and television partners — have brainstormed improvements and ideas to stop the plunge in attendance and television ratings. The solution is a new rules package aimed at markedly improving the on-track product. The new package uses aerodynamic ducts and a tapered spacer to reduce engine horsepower — in simplest turns, it should slow the cars and bunch them closer together to increase passing attempts and improve the overall competitiveness. It will debut in the second race of the season,

at Atlanta Motor Speedway.

The old package permitted a handful of teams to move so far ahead of the competition it took too long for anyone to catch them, the racing suffered and fans stopped watching. Kyle Busch, Kevin Harvick and Martin Truex Jr. combined to win 20 of 36 races last season, though the "Big Three" lost to Logano in the championship finale.

An early version of the package was used in last year's All-Star race and fan feedback seemed genuinely enthusiastic until drivers raised enough complaints about it to muddle expectations. Until the rules were tested last week at Las Vegas Motor Speedway, few dared to predict what the racing will look like this season.

NASCAR pushed forward and the new rules are here with major implications. The health of the sport is riding on the belief that, if nothing else, the racing will be better, more drivers will win, more teams will succeed, and fans, of course, will give it a chance.

Making the racing more entertaining is critical in getting fans to pay attention again.

"On the optimism scale of a 1 to 10, I'm a 15," said Marcus Smith, who as CEO of Speedway Motorsports Inc. last year pushed hard for the rules package and also altered his track last season to create the hybrid oval-road course "Roval" that created some buzz during last year's playoffs.

Continued on Page 23

Refs train with VAR ahead of approval for Women's World Cup

By ROB HARRIS
AP Global Soccer Writer

Women's World Cup referees are undergoing training with VARs in matches over the next two weeks, The Associated Press has learned, paving the way for the FIFA council to approve the use of video reviews at the tournament in France.

FIFA has faced criticism for not committing to using video assistant referees at the June 7-July 7 Women's World Cup just as they were for the men's tournament for the first time in Russia last year.

Amid growing demands for clarity on the deployment of VAR, United States women's team coach Jill Ellis said it would be "insulting" if female players didn't have an equal right to have decisions reviewed by video at their biggest tournament. England counterpart Phil Neville has also criticized the standard of refereeing in the women's game and the lack of technology which could reduce mistakes.

FIFA only gave the first indication on Monday that it does plan to use the technology in France after the AP discovered previously undisclosed training with VARs was taking place in seminars and matches in Qatar. It ensures the 27 referees and 47 assistant referees will gain the necessary experience that allows FIFA executives at a meeting in Miami in March to approve the use of the technology for the World Cup.

"The final decision if VAR will be used at the Women's World Cup will be taken by the FIFA council," FIFA told The Associated Press on Monday. The governing body had previously only said a decision about VAR would come "in due time." FIFA is now ramping up testing with VAR as referees preside over matches with the assistance of technology at the Al Kass International Cup for men's under-17 teams, including Real Madrid and Paris Saint-Germain, from Monday through Feb. 15 at Qatar's Aspire Academy.

"It's similar to the men's preparation," FIFA said in a statement to the AP after being asked about the gathering of Women's World Cup referees in Doha. "To have the best preparation the referees will have VAR training and in addition to that they will officiate games of the Al Kass Cup."

It is a rare deployment of female referees at men's games. Uruguayan official Claudia Umpierrez made the first VAR call of the tournament near Doha to disallow a goal for offside in a game involving Aspire and Moroccan side Raja Club Athletic on Monday evening.

"They have a competition, real matches and that's is the best way to practice," FIFA said. "VAR is only a part of their preparation. All other refereeing aspects like reading the game, uniformity and consistency in their decisions, positioning etc., are also crucial for their performances."

While the Women's World Cup referees and their as-



In this Friday, June 22, 2018 file photo, referee Matt Conger from New Zealand watches the Video Assistant Referee system, known as VAR during the group D match between Nigeria and Iceland at the 2018 soccer World Cup in the Volgograd Arena in Volgograd, Russia.

Associated Press

sistants are women, most of the VARs are men, with some having gained experience at the World Cup in Russia. No domestic women's competition currently uses VAR.

When FIFA in December announced the appointment of referees for the Women's World Cup, there was no mention of VAR. FIFA appears to be operating on the same timescale to last year when VAR for the men's World Cup was officially approved at a council meeting in March. The video review calls in Russia were made from

FIFA's International Broadcast Center near Moscow. VARs, four to a game, sat with monitor operators trained to find the best camera angles before feeding decisions back to referees on the pitch in stadiums. Referees can also check replays themselves on pitch-side monitors.

Video review can help referees overturn clear errors in game-changing situations. This means incidents involving goals scored, the award of penalty kicks, red cards, and cases of referees showing cards to the wrong player. □

America's Cup helmsman Canfield joins U.S. SailGP Team

By BERNIE WILSON
AP Sports Writer

SAN DIEGO (AP) — In an interesting crossover, Taylor Canfield of the America's Cup challenger Stars & Stripes Team USA has joined the U.S. team in the fledgling SailGP league just two weeks before the inaugural regatta in Sydney, Australia.

The U.S. SailGP team announced the addition of Canfield as flight controller-tactician a day after launching its 50-foot foiling catamaran on Sydney Harbor.

The opening regatta in the six-country league is Feb. 15-16.

Canfield is also helmsman of Stars & Stripes Team USA, which launched in December and is selecting its sailing crew and building its boat for the 36th America's



In this November, 2018 photo provided by Sail GP, Taylor Canfield, second from left with shades, is seen competing in Whangerai, New Zealand.

Associated Press

Cup in 2021 in Auckland, New Zealand. The addition of Canfield will give the young U.S. SailGP Team experience and depth. U.S. SailGP Team skipper and helmsman Rome Kirby, who won the America's

to the team, not only for his world-class experience, but for his competitive intensity on the water and laid-back style on land," Kirby said in a release. "He is a great fit for our team."

Canfield, one of the world's top match-racing sailors, said he's raced with and against members of the U.S. SailGP Team many times.

"The SailGP concept is incredible and what this sport has needed for a long time," Canfield said in a release. "To be racing at the top level of the sport, at extreme speeds against the best in the world — I can't wait."

The F50 catamarans are capable of going faster than 50 knots (57.5 mph). Mike Buckley, co-founder and skipper of Stars & Stripes USA, said the America's Cup team supported

Canfield's decision to join the SailGP team.

"He was psyched to do it and the SailGP guys are equally psyched to have him, as they should be," Buckley said in a phone interview. "Obviously, as much high-performance sailing in an organized format that any of the team can get is a huge advantage." Sailing with the SailGP will give Canfield more experience with foiling. The catamarans rise up on hydrofoils and skim across the tops of the waves with both hulls out of the water.

SailGP took three 50-foot foiling catamarans from the 2017 America's Cup and redesigned and re-engineered them, and built three new ones.

The America's Cup is switching to a radical foiling 75-foot monohull. □

McVay looks to future after Rams' ride derails in Super Bowl

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP) — Sean McVay has had very few bad days during his two seasons in charge of the Los Angeles Rams. His coaching tenure had been a rocket ride all the way to the Super Bowl.

Until Bill Belichick sent this bright football mind and his exciting team plummeting back to Earth.

What McVay does about it will determine whether the Rams are still an ascending powerhouse or another NFL contender broken by the New England Patriots.

After Belichick's defense turned McVay's offense into the worst version anyone had ever seen, the Rams' 33-year-old offensive guru was visibly frustrated and embarrassed. His clenched jaw in postgame interviews also signified a determination to never let it happen again.

"The thing that is so tough about all of this is the finality to it," McVay said Sunday night after his Rams failed to score a touchdown for only the second time in his 36 games in charge.

"Usually, if you go through some adversity, you get a chance to bounce back



Los Angeles Rams head coach Sean McVay, left, and New England Patriots head coach Bill Belichick shake hands before the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game between the Rams and the Patriots Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

right away. This one is going to stick with you. It just stings in your gut. I'm still kind of numb right now, but I have so much love for these players and these coaches. That's where it really eats at you, because you feel like you didn't do your part to help them achieve success.

"This is going to be a very humbling, tough one that you learn from. But you

have to demonstrate that mental toughness you talk about, and that is all I know how to do."

McVay could have been speaking partly to convince himself after he coached only the second team in 53 Super Bowls to fail to score a touchdown. The wunderkind's confidence appeared to be shaken to its core by a New England defense that held the 11th

highest-scoring team in NFL history to 260 total yards, six first downs in the first three quarters and their fewest points in McVay's era.

"It's embarrassing," left tackle Andrew Whitworth said.

"It stings to play that way. You'd almost rather score a ton and lose that way, but that would take away from what the defense did. They gave us every opportunity

Associated Press

to win."

McVay thrives on X's and O's, and he will have six months to scheme new ways to attack the similar zone defenses used late in the year by Detroit, Chicago and New England to throttle the Rams' passing game. He also will endeavor to teach Jared Goff to make better decisions under pressure after the young quarterback's stinker of a Super Bowl.

General manager Les Snead has big calls to make on soon-to-be free agents and roster vacancies.

The Rams will return with a wealth of talent, but they must determine whether their 4-3 record in their final seven games was a sign of bigger flaws.

Financially speaking, the Rams' championship window remains wide open for at least one more season before Goff likely gets a significant raise and consumes a larger chunk of their cap space in 2020. They can deal with their disappointment by adding players, not culling them — and after the bold moves of the last offseason, there is no reason to suspect the Rams won't go all in again in 2019. □

Super Bowl reaches 100.7 million people, down from 2018

By DAVID BAUDER

AP Media Writer

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — The New England Patriots' competitive but action-starved Super Bowl victory over the Los Angeles Rams was seen by 100.7 million people on television and streaming services, the smallest audience for football's annual spectacle in a decade.

A boycott by disgruntled New Orleans Saints fans, a campaign by fans of quarterback Colin Kaepernick and a game with only one touchdown combined to shrink the audience. On CBS alone, the game was seen by 98.2 million people, compared to 103.4 million who watched on NBC

last year, according to the Nielsen company.

Since reaching a peak of 114.4 million viewers for the Patriots' 2015 victory over the Seattle Seahawks, the Super Bowl audience has slipped each year since. The Super Bowl is traditionally the most-watched television event of the year in the U.S., and its audience hadn't dipped below 100 million since the Pittsburgh Steelers-Arizona Cardinals game in 2009.

CBS dealt with a city that held a major grudge. Many fans in New Orleans, where the hometown Saints were victimized by a blown referee's call toward the end of its loss to the Rams in the NFC championship,

skipped the game entirely. Preliminary ratings from New Orleans showed that Super Bowl viewership this year was half what it was in 2018.

New Orleans' Times Picayune newspaper printed a mostly blank front page on Monday with the words, "Super Bowl?" What Super Bowl?"

There was also a campaign on Twitter by people who said they would not watch the game because of Kaepernick, the former San Francisco 49ers quarterback who hasn't been able to land a job in the NFL since leading demonstrations in protest of police treatment of minorities.

After a season of offen-



New England Patriots' Lawrence Guy kisses the trophy after the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game against the Los Angeles Rams, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta. The Patriots won 13-3.

sive fireworks and conference championships that both went into overtime, Sunday's game was a defensive struggle where the teams were tied 3-3 entering the fourth quarter. That's a tough slog for the casual fan, and the Super Bowl draws millions who

don't watch football regularly.

At one point CBS commentator Tony Romo said, "this is hard to watch." Others were blunter still. The website The Ringer said that "the historically boring Super Bowl sent football back to the Stone Age." □

Goff, Rams' electric offense shorts out in Super Bowl defeat

By GREG BEACHAM

AP Sports Writer

ATLANTA (AP)— Jared Goff trudged to the Los Angeles Rams' bench, his face betraying confusion and despair while the Patriots celebrated their interception behind him.

Sean McVay left the sideline and leaned into his ear. The coach didn't say much, but he encouraged his quarterback to learn from a disastrous night in the Super Bowl.

McVay and Goff are likely to be together for many more years, and they hope they'll remember their embarrassing 13-3 loss Sunday as a springboard to the future, not the crushing flop that it felt like immediately afterward.

Goff went 19 of 38 for 229 yards with a key fourth-quarter interception, yet even those pedestrian numbers don't reflect his full array of overlooked receivers, inaccurate throws and inability to adjust to the Patriots' defense.

"It's the toughest loss I ever had," Goff said. "It kills. It's



Los Angeles Rams' Jared Goff (16) reacts after throwing an interception caught by New England Patriots' Stephon Gilmore during the second half of the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

Associated Press

terrible. It's a game I wish I would have played better. I wish I could have a million plays back."

Goff played a large role in the Rams' defeat, yet almost nothing went right for a team that has been

frequently brilliant with the ball in its hands.

With just 260 total yards, just six first downs in the first three quarters and a season-high nine punts, the Rams barely resembled a McVay-coached offense

while matching the lowest-scoring performance in Super Bowl history.

Los Angeles has led the league in points per game over the past two seasons, yet the Rams became just the second team in NFL his-

tory to fail to score a touchdown in the Super Bowl.

Casual football fans getting their first looks at the Rams at a Super Bowl party probably had no idea how LA got to Atlanta after watching this tentative, inconsistent performance. All of the Rams' recent success came to a weird anticlimax at Mercedes-Benz Stadium with their lowest-scoring performance in 36 games under the 33-year-old head coach.

"I'm pretty numb right now, but definitely I got out-coached," McVay said. "I didn't do nearly a good enough job for our football team. ... This one is going to stick with you. It just stings in your gut."

Though Goff's teammates and coaches refused to blame him, Los Angeles' 24-year-old quarterback had one of the rougher performances in Super Bowl history. Along with his 19 incompletions, he was sacked four times, committed a key false start in the fourth quarter and finished with a 57.9 passer rating. □

Fans in 3 states legally bet almost \$185.5M on Super Bowl

By REGINA GARCIA CANO and WAYNE PARRY

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS (AP)— Football fans in three states legally bet almost \$185.5 million on the Super Bowl this year, with sportsbooks ending Sunday with mixed results and Nevada operators seeing the first drop in the total amount wagered on the game since 2015.

The game between the New England Patriots and Los Angeles Rams was the first major professional sporting event to be posted on the boards of sportsbooks outside Nevada. All opened after the U.S. Supreme Court ended a federal ban on wagering on sports last year.

Figures released Monday by gambling regulators in Nevada show people wagered \$145.94 million at the state's 200 sportsbooks, \$12.65 million less than in



People watch Super Bowl LIII at the Westgate Superbook sports book, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Las Vegas.

Associated Press

2018. Sportsbooks operators in New Jersey accepted about \$34.9 million in wagers and lost money, while in Mississippi, fans bet around \$4.67 million at non-tribal casinos.

"I would characterize it as a solid day. It wasn't a bad day or a great day; it was right in the middle," said

Jay Kornegay, vice president of race and sports book operations at Westgate Las Vegas Superbook. Nevada's effective monopoly on sports betting ended last spring, when the Supreme Court ruled the ban should be lifted. Casinos in seven other states — Rhode Island, Delaware,

Mississippi, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, West Virginia and New Mexico — now accept wagers on sports. The list is expected to grow by next year.

New Jersey gambling regulators said sportsbooks lost \$4.6 million when they paid \$39.5 million to those who won bets. Many gamblers backed the Patriots, who beat the Rams 13-3 and covered the spread of 2 1/2 points.

Super Bowl Sunday "was by far our biggest day ever in New Jersey in terms of handle," said Joe Asher, CEO of William Hill US, which runs sportsbooks at two casinos and a racetrack in New Jersey as well as dozens of sportsbooks in Nevada. "It was really good."

He said William Hill's take for the day "was pretty much break even win/loss. We couldn't be more pleased overall — the retail

locations were strong, especially the Ocean Resort Casino, which had an unbelievable crowd."

DraftKings, which runs mobile wagering in New Jersey along with an in-person lounge at Resorts casino, also set a new record for the amount wagered. Spokesman James Chisholm said the company paid out about \$11 million in winning bets to customers, "and took a small, barely seven-figure loss."

The Westgate lost on the game itself, but did well on proposition bets — wagers on unique and various outcomes offered starting a few days ahead of the game — and on futures bets, which allow gamblers to wager on outcomes way in advance. Some bettors picked the Rams to win the title at the start of the season, for example, and lost their bet on Sunday. □



In this Jan. 29, 2019, file photo Cleveland Cavaliers' Rodney Hood, left, drives past Washington Wizards' Tomas Satoransky, from Czech Republic, in the second half of an NBA basketball game in Cleveland.

Associated Press

Rebuilding Cavaliers trade F Rodney Hood to Trail Blazers

By TOM WITHERS
AP Sports Writer

CLEVELAND (AP) — Rodney Hood made minimal impact on the Cavaliers' postseason run last season. He'll get a chance to do more with Portland.

Hood was traded Monday by the Cavaliers, who acquired guards Nik Stauskas and Wade Baldwin — and their expiring contracts — along with second-round picks in 2021 and 2023 from the Trail Blazers. Before the trade could be completed, the Cavaliers needed Hood to agree to the deal because he signed a one-year \$3.4 million qualifying offer this summer. The 26-year-old waived his no-trade clause to join the Blazers, who are 32-20 and have the fourth best record in the Western Conference. Hood will give Portland some more scoring punch and can take some pressure off guards Damian Lillard and CJ McCollum. He is averaging 12.2 points and 2.5 rebounds this season. The Cavaliers acquired Hood at the trade deadline from Utah last season, and they envisioned him being

another scoring option to complement LeBron James and Kevin Love. However, the 6-foot-8 forward never fully fit in with the Cavs, and after starting Cleveland's first playoff game, he was pulled from the rotation by then-coach Tyronn Lue.

The rebuilding Cavaliers are collecting draft assets following a four-year run to the Finals. It is possible they will deal Alec Burks or J.R. Smith before Thursday's trade deadline. Stauskas and Baldwin have expiring contracts, which will allow the Cavaliers to clear more salary-cap space to pursue free agents. Cleveland has added seven draft picks this season in deals for Hood, Kyle Korver, Sam Dekker and George Hill. To make roster room for Stauskas and Baldwin, the Cavaliers released guard Kobi Simmons from his 10-day contract. Stauskas averaged 6.1 points and 15.3 minutes in 44 games for Portland this season. He also has played for Sacramento, Philadelphia and Brooklyn. The Kings selected him with the No. 8 overall pick in 2014. □

Conley, Gasol help Grizzlies top Knicks to end road skid

By BRIAN MAHONEY

AP Basketball Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Marc Gasol was conducting his postgame interviews when his cellphone began buzzing with a call from his agent.

Gasol declined to answer. If it was trade news, it could wait until after he was done talking basketball.

"I'm not in the mood right now," Gasol said, smiling. "I still want to enjoy this."

Especially because his team had just looked like the Memphis Grizzlies of old.

Mike Conley scored 25 points, Gasol had 24 and Memphis snapped a nine-game road losing streak with a 96-84 victory over the New York Knicks on Sunday.

Memphis had lost three in a row and 17 of its last 19 overall but didn't allow more than 22 points in a quarter Sunday in a performance that used to be the norm when the Grizzlies were a perennial playoff team, not one that could be preparing for a rebuild. "This showed that we still have that, have that core grit-grind kind of mentality regardless of how we've been playing," Conley said.

Conley added eight rebounds and seven assists in a strong return to the lineup after missing a game with left knee soreness. Gasol chipped in nine rebounds in what could have been the longtime teammates' final road game with the Grizzlies.

The team has fallen from playoff contention after a strong start and told the players it will listen to offers for both ahead of Thurs-



Memphis Grizzlies' Marc Gasol, left, drives past New York Knicks' DeAndre Jordan during the first half of an NBA basketball game, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in New York.

Associated Press

Square Garden.

The Knicks started Dennis Smith Jr. and Jordan in their first game in uniform since coming to New York from Dallas along with Wesley Matthews on Thursday in the Kristaps Porzingis trade. Smith made the first basket of the game, but the Knicks — with the newcomers not having practiced with the team yet — shot just 38 percent against one of the league's best defensive teams.

Smith finished with eight points and six assists.

TIP-INS

Grizzlies: Jackson had also missed the previous game with a right quadriceps injury. ... The Grizzlies signed forward Bruno Caboclo to a second 10-day contract Sunday. He started and was scoreless.

Knicks: Smith, Jordan and Matthews played their

"He did say Dennis and I looked at him, I looked at the other players. They're looking at me. I am like, 'OK, I guess he called my name,' and then I got up," Kanter said. "I just walked in there and they said nope, sit down. The crowd was like, 'Ugh.'"

NOAH IN NEW YORK

Joakim Noah was booed nearly every time he touched the ball in his first game at Madison Square Garden since his failed run here that ended with him banished from the team after an argument with former coach Jeff Hornacek. Noah, who had been given a \$72 million, four-year deal by Phil Jackson to return to his hometown, was eventually waived and signed with the Grizzlies. Noah, who scored four points, felt the Knicks underachieved while he was here. □



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Ryan, Lindholm, Hanifin lift Flames in return to Raleigh

RALEIGH, N.C. (AP) — Bill Peters' return to Carolina went about as perfectly as he could have imagined. He has the players he brought with him to Calgary to thank for that. Derek Ryan, Elias Lindholm and Noah Hanifin all scored in their first game back in Carolina, and the Flames beat the Hurricanes 4-3 on Sunday in Peters' return to Raleigh.

Peters resigned as Carolina's coach last offseason and took over in Calgary. Shortly after, the Flames acquired Lindholm and Hanifin in a trade with the Hurricanes, and Ryan signed with Calgary after three seasons in Carolina.

The ex-Hurricanes had a hand in all four Flames goals. Lindholm pulled Calgary into a tie late in the first, Ryan scored the go-ahead goal in the second and assisted on Garnet Hathaway's goal later in the period, and Hanifin finished the scoring with a slap shot in the third.

"You can't script that," said Peters, who coached the Hurricanes for four seasons. "All the guys involved had a positive impact on the game."

David Rittich made 34



Carolina Hurricanes goalie Petr Mrazek (34), of the Czech Republic, blocks Calgary Flames' Mikael Backlund (11), of Sweden, during the second period of an NHL hockey game in Raleigh, N.C., Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019.

saves as Calgary improved to 9-1-1 in its last 11 games. A pregame video welcoming Peters, Ryan, Lindholm and Hanifin back to Carolina was met with boos by the crowd.

It only served to fire the players up. After the final buzzer sounded, Lindholm began clapping his hands over his head, mocking what the Hurricanes do

after home victories. Lindholm received even louder boos after that.

"My name came up twice on the JumboTron and I got booed, so that was a nice way to end it," Lindholm said. "I was surprised. I tried to play hard here for five years and got booed. It is what it is. It was nice to end it that way."

Sebastian Aho, Teuvo Tera-

vainen and Dougie Hamilton each had a goal and an assist for the Hurricanes. Petr Mrazek made 28 saves. The Flames scored three consecutive goals after Carolina took an early lead, and Rittich made it stand up with a string of highlight-reel saves. Rittich stopped Justin Williams' chance at an open net off a deflection and Mi-

Associated Press

cheal Ferland's point-blank slap shot in the first period. He made a terrific pad save on Lucas Wallmark's one-timer in the second as well as stopping Ferland's late deflection in front of the net, and he robbed Williams again with a pad save on a one-timer in the third to preserve Calgary's one-goal lead.

After a turnover by Flames defenseman TJ Brodie in front of Rittich led to Carolina's first goal, Calgary took control. Mark Giordano's wrist shot from the point redirected off Lindholm's leg into the net to tie the score at the end of the first, and Ryan took over in the second.

He gave the Flames their first lead with a wraparound 7:38 into the period, and served as the catalyst for a short-handed goal that made it 3-1. Ryan forced a turnover just inside his own blue line, skated the length of the ice along the left boards and finished a 2-on-1 with a pristine pass to Hathaway on the far post.

"(Ryan) has had a lot of good games in this building," Peters said. "He was real good. Brought a little extra juice for him coming back into PNC Arena." □

Drouin scores in OT, Canadiens hand Oilers 5th straight loss

MONTREAL (AP) — With Connor McDavid and Leon Draisaitl on a 2-on-0 breakaway in overtime, it looked as if the Edmonton Oilers would snap their four-game losing skid.

But Draisaitl's bobbling pass hit McDavid's skate and the opportunity was lost.

On the very next shift, Jonathan Drouin went end-to-end and scored to give the Montreal Canadiens a 4-3 victory Sunday.

"We just didn't connect clean," McDavid said. "It was a little too far in front of me. I couldn't get to it. They had a chance, we had a couple chances, and the last goal wins, obviously,

and they were able to find it."

Just 30 seconds into the extra frame, Draisaitl carried the puck across the blue line, with McDavid to his right. Draisaitl slowed down just enough to be caught by Jeff Petry, who got his stick on the pass to McDavid.

Carey Price then stopped a weak shot by McDavid, a slap shot by defenseman Darnell Nurse and a wrister by Draisaitl.

"I was a little worried, obviously," Canadiens winger Brendan Gallagher said. "It was nice when you saw McDavid slow down and Draisaitl try to compose

the puck. Not exactly what you want to give up but we found a way. Price made a save, calmed things down, and Drouin went the other way to win the game."

After the Canadiens won the ensuing faceoff, Drouin took the puck from behind his own net, gave a burst of speed in the neutral zone, cut back around defenseman Kris Russell before beating Mikko Koskinen 58 seconds into overtime.

"We had a little bit of luck on that," Canadiens coach Claude Julien said. "There's no doubt about it. But a lot of times that's what you need to win hockey games. Luck was on our



Montreal Canadiens' Max Domi scores against the Edmonton Oilers during second-period NHL hockey game action in Montreal, Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019.

Associated Press

side this afternoon." Jesperi Kotkaniemi pulled Montreal even with 6:25 left in regulation, roofing the puck over Koskinen from a tight angle after Max Domi battled for the puck behind the net.

Domi and Shea Weber also scored for the Canadiens, and Price made 21 saves for his fifth straight victory. Draisaitl scored twice for Edmonton, McDavid added a goal and Koskinen stopped 23 shots. □

NASCAR

Continued from Page 17

"The racing is the most important part of NASCAR and the quality of racing is similar to the quality of a show, a movie or the quality of a story in a book," he said.

"If it's exciting, you want to watch it, you want to be there."

This package is going to be more exciting and I believe it will have a huge positive impact on the sport."

NASCAR will continue to emphasize its rising young talent, led by Ryan Blaney, Austin Dillon, Chase Elliott, Erik Jones and Kyle Larson, all playoff drivers last season.

Elliott was voted NASCAR's most popular driver, an award won a record 16 times by his Hall of Fame father, Bill Elliott.

Even so, the spotlight still centers on NASCAR's aging stars, who are adamant they can still win championships.

Leading the veteran charge is seven-time NASCAR champion Jimmie Johnson in a new-look No. 48 team. Johnson and Chad Knaus, the only crew chief he'd had in his Cup career, split at the end of last season and longtime sponsor Lowe's left NASCAR.

Johnson suffered through the first winless season of his career last year but is



In this Nov. 18, 2018, file photo Joey Logano waves his steering wheel as confetti flies after winning the NASCAR Cup Series Championship auto race at the Homestead-Miami Speedway in Homestead, Fla.

certain he can still win a record eighth championship. "There is a lot of 'new' to it, there's no way around that," Johnson said.

"It definitely is a new challenge and I welcome it. I'm just excited to get this fresh start and see where it takes us."

Truex, a year removed from his Cup title, moved to Joe Gibbs Racing for 2019 because his title-winning team closed.

He replaced Mexican driver Daniel Suarez, the only non-American in the field, and Suarez was signed last month by Stewart-Haas Racing.

Kurt Busch vacated that seat and replaced Jamie McMurray at Chip Ganassi

Racing, and McMurray's career will come to a close after the Daytona 500.

He and AJ Allmendinger are among the many drivers moving into television work, opening opportunities for lesser-known drivers. Logano, who used two victories in the last four races of 2018 to become the unlikely champion, is a firm believer that NASCAR is making moves to stop its downturn.

"Our sport is not in the dumps, that's not the case at all," Logano said.

"I think there's a lot of upside, a lot of great things we are doing, and when it comes to motorsports in America there is none better than NASCAR." □

Associated Press

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Facebook says Apple is restoring a key developer tool



This Feb. 19, 2014, file photo shows the Facebook app icon on an iPhone in New York.

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) —

Facebook says Apple is restoring its access to a key development tool that the iPhone maker disabled Wednesday.

Last Tuesday, TechCrunch reported that Facebook paid teens and other users

who agreed to download an app called Facebook Research. That app could extensively track their phone and web use. Apple said Facebook was abusing the tool, known as a developer enterprise certificate, to distribute the app on iPhones in a way that allowed the

social network to sidestep Apple restrictions on data collection.

By revoking the certificate for the iOS software that powers the iPhone and iPad, Apple closed off Facebook's efforts to sidestep Apple's app store and its tighter rules on privacy.

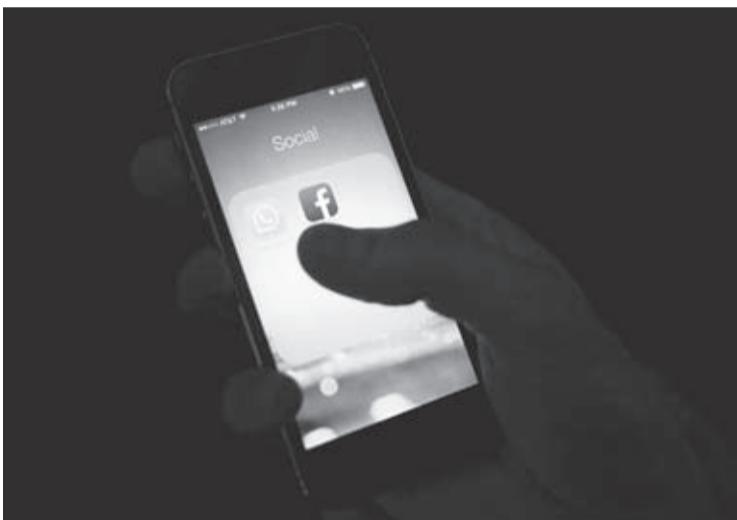
Apple did not immediately respond to a message for comment Thursday afternoon. Facebook did not say whether it agreed to any conditions for the certificate restoration.

In an internal memo sent on Wednesday, Facebook told employees it is "working closely" with Apple to reinstate access. It also told workers to install the public versions of apps from the app store. Apps that it said "may not work" included internal versions of Facebook, Workplace, Instagram and the Ride

app, which helps workers with transportation. WhatsApp was not affected. While Facebook engineers could still write code and work on iPhone apps during the shutoff, their ability to test them in

the field was limited. In a statement, Facebook said it is "in the process of getting our internal apps up and running." The company noted that the issue had no impact on its consumer services. □

Facebook removes 783 fake pages, accounts tied to Iran



In this May 18, 2012, file photo a television photographer shoots the sign outside of Facebook headquarters in Menlo Park, Calif.

Associated Press

By BARBARA ORTUTAY
AP Technology Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — Face-

book says it has removed 783 Iran-linked pages, accounts and groups from its service for what it calls "coordinated inauthentic behavior." That's the social network's term for fake accounts run with the intent of disrupting politics and elections.

Facebook has been disclosing such purges more regularly in recent months, including ones linked to groups in Myanmar, Bangladesh and Russia. Twitter also said on Thursday that it found "found limited operations" that have that may have been connected to sources in Iran, Venezuela, and Russia. It did not give further details and said it suspended the suspicious accounts before the 2018 U.S. midterm elections.

The accounts on Facebook and Instagram typically misrepresented themselves as locals in more than two dozen countries ranging from Afghanistan, Germa-

ny, India, Saudi Arabia and the U.S.

Facebook said Thursday the accounts spent about \$30,000 on advertisements, paid for in U.S. dollars, British pounds, Canadian dollars and euros.

The company said Twitter helped its investigation by sharing information about suspicious activity it found on its own service. The companies, along with others in the tech industry, have been cooperating more when it comes to such account takedowns by sharing information.

Such cooperation can help the companies avoid regulatory scrutiny by showing critics and lawmakers that they can set aside differences when it comes to battling outside threats that affect their users.

The latest removed accounts, Facebook said, typically represented themselves as locals in various countries, often using fake accounts and posting news stories on current events. □

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- Rent income
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- Large Lot

PROPERTY FEATURES

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Tamarijn \$ 59
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Liz Weston: Don't let others pick your financial adviser

By LIZ WESTON
Associated Press

Gaylen Rust must have seemed trustworthy to the people who gave him money.

Rust was a longtime businessman in Layton, Utah, where he ran a coin shop started by his father in 1966. Rust also founded a charity called Legacy Music Alliance that funded arts programs in schools. An admiring 2013 profile in The Salt Lake Tribune called Rust "the state's biggest proponent of arts education."

Federal and state regulators, however, say Rust was running a Ponzi scheme. Civil lawsuits filed late last year by the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Commodity Futures Trading Commission and the Utah Division of Securities say Rust, his wife and one of his five children persuaded hundreds of friends, customers and business associates across the country to invest more than \$200 million in a bogus silver trading pool.

When scam artists target groups of people who know each other or have something else in common, such as religion, it's known as "affinity fraud." And it's one big reason why you shouldn't rely solely on recommendations from friends and family when choosing a financial adviser.

"If anything, word-of-mouth recommendations are even more important



This April 2017 file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

to the con artists than to the legitimate adviser," says Barbara Roper, director of investor protection for the Consumer Federation of America. "Where else are they going to find their victims?"

Asking friends and family for referrals isn't a bad way to begin your search for an adviser, Roper says. Just don't assume your loved ones have done their due diligence.

The people who invested with Rust ignored several big red flags. According to the actions filed:

—He wasn't registered in

the securities industry.

—He claimed consistently high returns, saying he averaged 20 percent to 25 percent annually and never less than 12 percent.

—He didn't use a third party, such as a brokerage firm, to issue account statements and instead provided investors with spreadsheets showing purported transactions.

Promises of high returns with little or no risk are a classic sign of fraud, as are statements generated without supervision by a third party, Roper says.

Advisers who aren't actual

scam artists may still have checkered histories.

One research team found that one out of every 14 advisers registered with Financial Industry Regulatory Authority, a private self-regulatory organization, had records of serious misconduct such as fraud, forgery or unauthorized trading. Thirty percent of that group had multiple offenses, says Mark Egan, a professor at Harvard Business School and a co-author of the study.

"Advisers who have engaged in the misconduct in the past are five times as likely to engage in misconduct again in the future," Egan says.

Even advisers who don't run afoul of regulators can be bad news if they don't put their clients first or are simply incompetent. To protect yourself, Roper recommends the following steps to vet financial advisers:

MAKE SURE THE ADVISER IS PROPERLY REGISTERED.

Financial advisers should be registered either as a broker/dealer or as an investment adviser, Roper says. You can start at BrokerCheck, FINRA's free online tool. If the person you're checking out is an investment adviser rather than a broker, the tool will send you to the Investment Advisor Public Disclosure database. Either way, you should see their employment and disciplinary histories.

TAKE ANY DISCIPLINARY HISTORY SERIOUSLY.

Sometimes minor complaints end up in the databases, but typically the misconduct reported is serious, Egan says. At the very least, it's worth talking to the adviser about what you find if you're already a client. If you haven't hired this person, keep looking, since most advisers never run afoul of regulators.

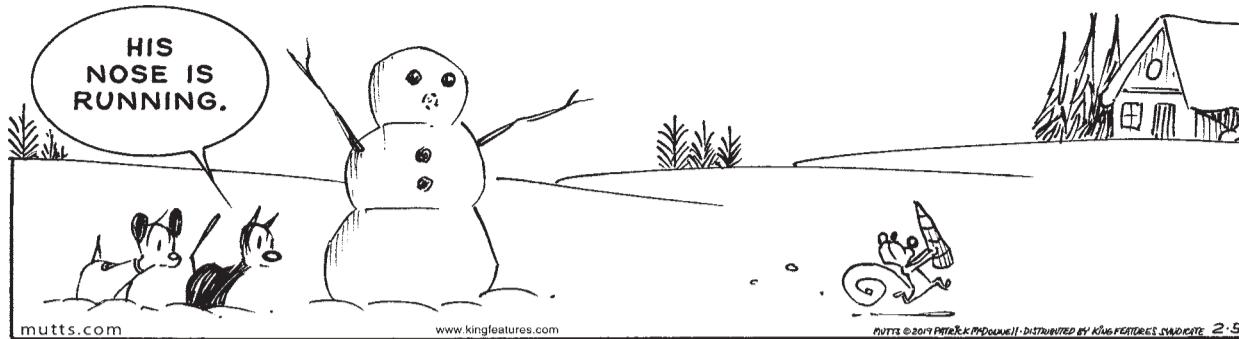
LOOK FOR, AND VERIFY, THE RIGHT CREDENTIALS.

People offering money advice should have at least one credential that signifies a rigorous financial education and adherence to a code of ethics, such as certified financial planner (CFP) or chartered financial analyst (CFA), Roper says. CPAs who are personal financial specialists (PFS) meet requirements similar to a CFP. You can verify an adviser's credential at the sites of the organizations that granted them — the CFP Board of Standards, the CFA Institute and the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, respectively.

You can check out any unfamiliar credentials at FINRA's site to see how much effort and education is required to obtain them, Roper suggests.

"Just the fact that an individual has a string of letters after their name," she says, "doesn't mean they represent any valid area of expertise." □

Mutts



Conceptis Sudoku

			3										
6												1	
1		9	2	5								7	
	9		8									1	
8	6											5	3
2			7									4	
5		7	6	1								9	
	4											3	
			9										

Difficulty Level ★★

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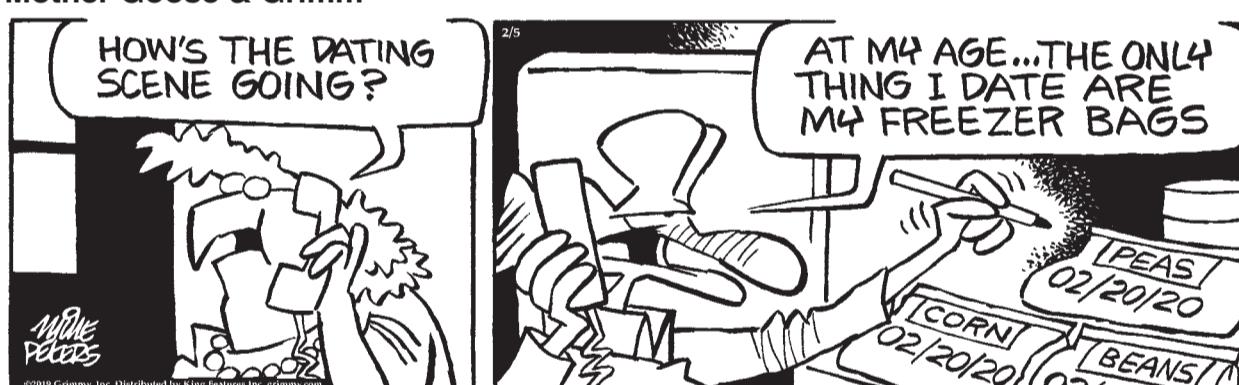
6 Chix



Blondie



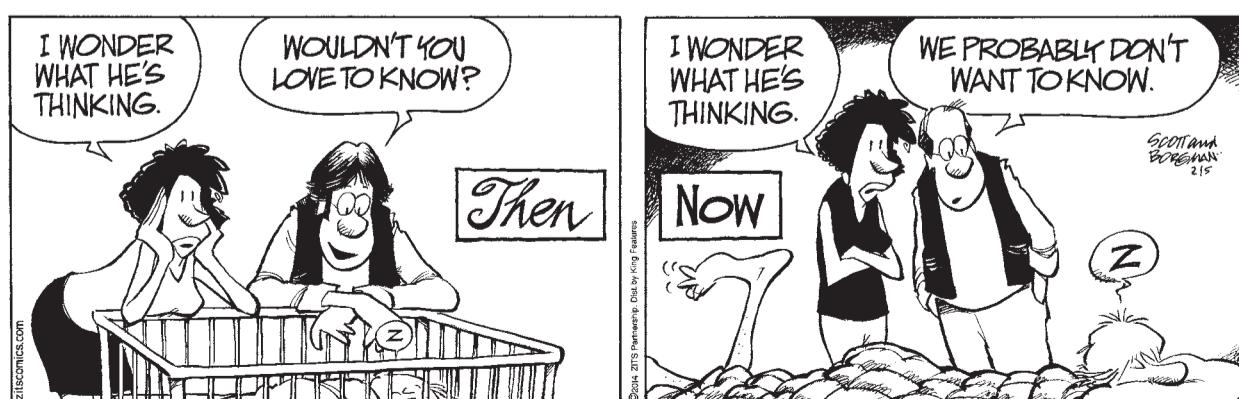
Mother Goose & Grimm



Baby Blues



Zits



2	7	8	3	9	1	6	4	5						
6	5	4	7	2	8	9	3	1						
3	9	1	5	6	4	7	2	8						
4	3	9	6	8	7	1	5	2						
1	6	7	2	4	5	8	9	3						
8	2	5	1	3	9	4	6	7						
5	8	6	9	7	3	2	1	4						
7	1	2	4	5	6	3	8	9						
9	4	3	8	1	2	5	7	6						

Yesterday's puzzle answer

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14					15					16				
17					18					19				
20			21							22				
	23	24								25				
26	27					28				29	30			
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39			40						41					
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	45								46					
47	48	49							50			51	52	53
54				55	56				57					
58			59						60					
61			62						63					

Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/5/19

Monday's Puzzle Solved

FLU	GRABS	SCUM
LORD	REGAL	CAPE
YOGA	OPERA	RIOT
PERSUADES	INNS	
NOSY	HEM	
STRIKE	TAILPIPE	
POINT	TRUNK	SUN
LONG	SWUNG	BALD
ITS	ATILT	LEASE
THEOLOGY	FORCED	
RIM	LOON	
WASA	AFTERMATH	
IRON	CLOVE	RAYS
SMUG	HATES	DUDE
HYPE	SWEET	TEA

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2/5/19

- 5 Money earned
6 Big Ben, for one
7 Danger
8 Gabor or Longoria
9 Actress Ming-Na
10 Slumbers
11 Hardy cabbage
12 Like cinnamon rolls, usually
13 Disarray
14 Gather bit by bit
15 Small amounts
16 Flower rings
17 Landing place
18 Davenport
19 "Beauty is skin-deep"
20 Miles per hour
21 Chances
22 Exchange letters
23 To; because of
24 BPOE folks
25 Suffer defeat
26 Auto racer A.J.
27 Cuisine; fine food
28 Ran away
29 Exchange letters
30 To; because of
31 Place of refuge
32 Actress Burstyn
33 Bird of prey
34 Be persnickety
35 Aviator
36 Musketeers or Stooges
37 Get-up-and-go
38 Strike
39 Polish off
40 Jabbed
41 Revolves
42 School compositions
43 Go back on a promise
44 Strike
45 Conceals
46 Twelve
50 Family members
51 Cushion
52 Dethrones; brings down
53 Like takeout food
54 Sweetheart
55 Uncanny
56 Patella's place
57 "Beauty is skin-deep"
58 Miles per hour
59 Chances
60 "Beauty is skin-deep"
61 "Beauty is skin-deep"
62 Miles per hour
63 Chances

DOWN
1 Chops down
2 Waikiki Beach's island
3 Members of the royal family
4 Lawn tree
52 Middle-; neither young nor old
53 Mothers of fawns
55 "got the whole world in His hands..."
56 Elected official: abbr.
57 Ref's call

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U.S. says 2 states must finish Colorado River drought plan

By FELICIA FONSECA
Associated Press

FLAGSTAFF, Ariz. (AP) —

Two states in the U.S. West have work to do on a plan to combat the shrinking supply of Colorado River water that 40 million people depend on but that's threatened by a prolonged drought, a federal official said Friday.

Complex agreements among water users in California and Arizona haven't been signed, U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Commissioner Brenda Burman said. She declared that the states missed her Thursday deadline to complete the work, which could allow the federal government to step in and decide the rules.

But Burman said she prefers the seven states that rely on the river to reach a consensus on protecting the water that serves 5.5 million acres of farmland. She said she would halt a process to ask those governors to explain what should happen next if California and Arizona finish all the components of a drought plan by March 4.

"We are close, and I applaud those who have worked to get us close, but only done will protect this basin," she told reporters Friday. "Time to get the job done."

The bureau is part of the Interior Department, which has broad authority to manage water supplies in the Colorado River's lower basin that includes Arizona, California and Nevada.

Utah, New Mexico, Colorado and Wyoming make up the river's upper basin and have approved the drought contingency plans, as has Nevada.

Arizona lawmakers passed legislation late Thursday

supporting the drought plan, and Gov. Doug Ducey signed it. Arizona was

commitment," the governor's chief of staff, Gretchen Conger, said.

plan advocates for keeping more water in Lake Mead to keep it from falling

\$200 million to manage the Salton Sea. Levels in the state's largest lake created



In this July 16, 2014 file photo, what was once a marina sits high and dry due to Lake Mead receding in the Lake Mead National Recreation Area in Arizona.

Associated Press

the only state that required lawmakers to review the plan. Now, water users must sign 15 agreements that address water storage, conservation and other details.

Ducey's office said it considers that step a formality. A committee tasked with negotiating Arizona's drought plan included nearly 40 people representing tribes, cities, developers, farmers and other water managers.

"We have no reason to believe any member of the steering committee, stakeholder in the process would do anything but fulfill their

The river has two main reservoirs — Lake Mead on the Arizona-Nevada line and Lake Powell upstream — that gauge its health. Their combined storage is at the lowest level since the early 1960s, Burman said. She and others have painted a dire picture, saying that without action, Lake Mead could fall to a level referred to as "dead pool" and none of the lower basin states would get any Colorado River water.

Guidelines now cut water deliveries to Arizona and Nevada when Lake Mead falls to 1,075 feet (328 meters), and it's a real possibility next year. Farmers in central Arizona would suffer the most, and Nevada would take a hit. California would not lose any water because it has senior rights to the water.

The drought plan seeks to spread the cuts more widely and eventually loop in California. Mexico also has agreed to cutbacks. The

drastically.

"We wanted to be proactive, have a plan," said Jeff Kightlinger, general manager of the Metropolitan Water District in California. "We have to step up and work with Arizona. The big, important thing is with the climate change and long-term drought cycle of the American Southwest, people have realized this isn't about priorities, it's about survival."

He was confident Arizona and California would do what's needed to complete the drought plan by March 4.

In California, the work was up to four entities that deliver Colorado River water — the Metropolitan and Coachella Valley water districts, and the Imperial and Palo Verde irrigation districts.

The Imperial Irrigation District has said its approval is contingent on final review of the multistate plan, federal legislation and getting

by runoff have exposed a dusty lakebed that worsens air quality when winds sweep into nearby communities.

The district will work to reach a deal, and its board will vote when everything is complete, general manager Henry Martinez said.

The upper basin states manage their share of the river differently than the lower basin.

They work to keep Lake Powell at a minimum 3,490 feet (1,064 meters) above sea level, providing water to the lower basin states and ensuring hydroelectric turbines at Glen Canyon Dam keep spinning.

James Eklund, Colorado's representative on interstate river negotiations, said he wasn't surprised or discouraged by Burman's actions.

"You've got to stick with deadlines or sometimes people won't take you seriously."

She wasn't draconian about it," Eklund said. □

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Tenor on top of the high C's in Donizetti opera

By MIKE SILVERMAN

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — When Javier Camarena explodes with joy singing nine high C's in Donizetti's "La Fille du Régiment" (Daughter of the Regiment), there's a good chance the Metropolitan Opera audience will explode right back at him with demands for an encore.

"I will be very happy to do it but it doesn't depend on me," the Mexican tenor said in an interview after a rehearsal last month. "I always say this is the will of the public."

Bowing to that will would be nothing new for Camarena, who has encored arias in two operas at the Met — Rossini's "La Cenerentola" in 2014 and Donizetti's "Don Pasquale" two years later.

In "La Fille" — its English title is "The Daughter of the Regiment" — Camarena plays Tonio, a peasant whose love for the title character leads him to enlist in the army. When the soldiers consent to their marriage, Tonio erupts in a bravura display that requires him to leap up repeatedly a full octave to



This image released by the Metropolitan Opera shows tenor Javier Camarena rehearsing his aria with nine high C's as Tonio in Donizetti's "The Daughter of the Regiment" at the Metropolitan Opera in New York.

high C, a note that always excites an audience when hit at full throttle.

Camarena will be singing his first Tonio at the Met in Laurent Pelly's production, which also stars South African soprano Pretty Yende. It opens Thursday and runs for seven performances, the last of which on March 2 will be broadcast live in HD to movie theaters worldwide.

He said Tonio is "very dear to me" because it was the role of his professional debut in Mexico City in 2004. The aria with those high notes, "Ah! mes amis," comes easily now, but mastering it was a challenge. "The very first time you begin to study this aria and say, 'Oh, it's not that complicated' — THAT's the complicated part," Camarena said. "Because

to make it easy, you have to practice, practice and practice."

The first two C's, coming on the syllables "MA" and "NA," were no problem. "You only open your mouth, pull the jaw down and the sound is already there," he said.

But the second pair is a different matter. They fall on "SA" and "FLA," syllables beginning with unvoiced

consonants that make it "much harder to hit the right point and keep the sound secure."

As unassuming and charming in person as he is on-stage, Camarena happily demonstrated for a reporter what he sounded like when he first tried that second pair of C's. Instead of coming out cleanly, they were slightly off-center and wobbly.

"After hours and hours and hours, you realize where you have to place the voice," he said. "Then the muscle memory takes over." Although nowadays tenors are expected to treat the audience to nine high C's, Camarena displayed a copy of Donizetti's 1840 score that shows only eight. The ninth, coming at the end, was "invented by some crazy tenor," he said, and has become a traditional interpolation. Remarkably, it wasn't until Luciano Pavarotti triumphed as Tonio in 1972 that "Ah! Mes amis" became a showpiece for tenors at the Met. Before that, the opera was seen as a vehicle for sopranos, and the aria was sometimes cut altogether. □

Thank U, Next: Maroon 5's halftime show was basic

By MESFIN FEKADU

Associated Press

There are a number of words you could use to describe Maroon 5's halftime show performance: Empty. Boring. Basic. Sleepy. Skippable. Unfulfilling. Unnecessary.

And those who came to help save the day didn't do their jobs: If you blinked you would have missed that Travis Scott and Big Boi performed. Even the gospel choir singer was a struggle — clearly they let the wrong one sing lead Sunday.

Adam Levine and friends kicked off the performance as fireworks burst from a stage designed like the letter "M," which should have stood for "magic," because they



Adam Levine of Maroon 5, left, and Travis Scott perform during halftime of the NFL Super Bowl 53 football game between the Los Angeles Rams and the New England Patriots Sunday, Feb. 3, 2019, in Atlanta.

needed some.

It started off on the right note, actually. "Harder to Breathe," the band's amazing debut rock song, was rousing as fire blasts shot from the sides of the

stage. Levine grabbed his guitar for "This Love," while other bandmates also strummed away.

It was all going well until a joke was uttered: "A true musical genius who needs

no introduction."

That's when Scott rocketed to the stage. He tried to rap — most of it was bleeped out — in a circle of fire, but his inclusion felt more like an interruption. Scott performed his No. 1 hit, "Sickomode," and Levine awkwardly danced beside him, which looked almost as bad as Katy Perry dancing next to Missy Elliott at Super Bowl 49.

But there was one Scott highlight: He fell backward into the audience and faded away.

The rest of the performance went downhill like Scott's body did. Maroon 5 performed the very terrible hit "Girls Like You," making the already bad song sound worse by mixing in a gospel choir, led

by a singer whose voice would make you walk out of church (sorry, girl).

Each transition during the halftime show didn't feel smooth, and Big Boi appearing on top of a car in a thick mink coat added to the weirdness of the night.

When he performed "The Way You Move," it just made you wonder what Andre 3000 was doing at the moment. Watching? Sleeping? Probably sleeping while watching.

You probably had similar thoughts when Scott was onstage and Drake's vocals played at the beginning of "Sickomode" — wishing the show had a real superstar like Drizzy to give an epic performance. □

Could 'Alita' be Hollywood's breakthrough manga movie?

By NICK PERRY

Associated Press

WELLINGTON, New Zealand

(AP) — The manga movie "Alita: Battle Angel" has been 20 years in the making, and producer Jon Landau thinks it will finally represent the breakthrough success in Hollywood for a genre which has proved problematic.

"I think this is definitely the breakthrough one because of the story that Kishiro wrote," said Landau, referring to Japanese author Yukito Kishiro, who wrote the graphic novels, or manga, upon which the movie is based.

"You know, other mangas that have not worked have been very Asian-centric in their world, and in their stories," Landau said. "And Kishiro wrote a melting-pot world. He didn't write a central character that was Asian. He wrote universal themes of discovery, of self-awareness, for these characters. And that's what's relatable to people across the globe."

The film has an estimated



In this photo taken on Jan. 9, 2019, from left, director Robert Rodriguez, producer Jon Landau, actors Rosa Salazar and Christoph Waltz pose for a photo near Wellington, New Zealand.

Associated Press

budget of \$200 million and when it opens in February, Twentieth Century Fox will be hoping for a much better reception than Paramount's 2017 flop "Ghost in the Shell."

That manga movie didn't seem to connect with audiences, grossing just \$41 million in the U.S. and \$170 million worldwide, with some critics accusing it of "whitewashing" after Scarlett Johansson was cast in

the lead role.

"Alita" tells the story of cyborg Alita (Rosa Salazar) who awakens without memory in a dystopian world where she's taken in by a compassionate father figure Dr. Dyson Ido (Christoph Waltz). As she learns to navigate her new world, she begins to discover her latent fighting powers and develops feelings for street-smart Hugo (Keegan Johnson).

Landau said director

James Cameron first fell in love with the Alita novels in 1999, and spent five years working on a script that ballooned to nearly 200 pages with 600 pages of notes. He says Cameron got waylaid working on "Avatar" (2009) and its sequels before one day having a social lunch with director Robert Rodriguez.

"He said if you can crack this down to a shooting length, you can direct it," Landau recalls. "And Robert did."

During principal filming in Austin, Texas, Salazar wore a motion-capture suit so her character could later be animated to reflect its look in the novels. When the first trailers came out last year, some viewers said Alita's eyes appeared huge to the point of being creepy.

Senior visual effects supervisor Joe Letteri, from the Weta Digital studio in New Zealand's capital Wellington, said they discussed the eyes with Cameron, and he had the opposite reaction, telling them they had held back and should

go bigger. "And it wasn't the size of the eyes, it was the size of the pupils," Letteri said. "Because that was a quality in the book, that sort of doll-like quality, and he thought we should bring that out more. And it worked."

Salazar, who previously appeared in "Maze Runner: The Scorch Trials" (2015), said she completed many months of martial arts training in disciplines like Muay Thai to prepare for the fight sequences.

"It was a lot of working through soreness, working through pain, getting my endurance up," she said. She broke some ribs during her training, she said.

"I fell on my ribs doing a whip kick," she said. "My other foot just kind of gave out, my other leg kind of swept from under me, and I fell directly on my ribs. I couldn't breathe for a little while."

She said she always trusted her character would look good on the screen after Rodriguez showed her some concept art before she got the role. □

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SAT 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20 | 11:40
SUN 2:20 | 4:40 | 7:00 | 9:20

LOUIS ASHBOURNE SERKIS | PATRICK STEWART

KID KING
WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 4:00 | 6:25 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 1:25 | 4:00 | 6:35 | 9:10

SPANISH
MON-FRI 4:30
SAT-SUN 1:55 | 4:30

MATTHEW MCCONAUGHEY | ANNIE HATHAWAY

SERENITY
MON-THU & SUN 7:05 | 9:25
FRIDAY 7:05 | 9:25 | 11:45

BRYAN CRANSTON | KEVIN HART

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WITH SPANISH SUBTITLES
MON-FRI 3:50 | 6:30 | 9:10
SAT-SUN 1:10 | 3:50 | 6:30 | 9:10

MON-SUN 8:30

PG-13

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SUN 1:10 | 3:15 | 5:20 | 7:25 | 9:30**

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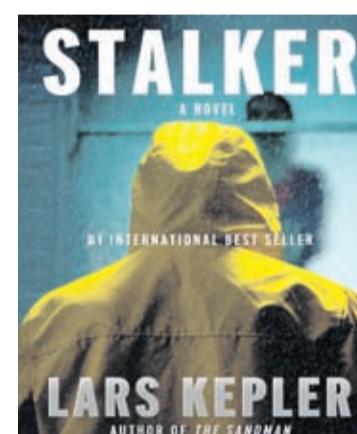
'Stalker' by Lars Kepler is a wild ride

By JONATHAN ELDERFIELD

Associated Press

"Stalker: a Novel," (Alfred A. Knopf), by Lars Kepler. When the lead detective in a crime novel is introduced as an expert on "serial killers, spree killers, and stalkers," you know you're in for a rough ride. And when you read the descriptions of the killings in the early chapters of "Stalker," you'll feel like you're plunging down the first steep descent on a roller coaster — you'll want to scream with abject terror. The beginning of the new book from husband-and-wife team Alexandra Coelho Ahndoril and Alexander Ahndoril, writing as Lars Kepler, was as gripping as it was disturbing.

Police in the Swedish National Criminal Investigation Department receive a link to a short YouTube video showing a woman in



This cover image released by Knopf shows "Stalker," a novel by Lars Kepler.

Associated Press

her bedroom, putting on a pair of black tights, filmed secretly from the outside. Soon after, the woman is found murdered, her face mutilated by multiple stab wounds in a horrific attack. When a second video is received, Detective Margot Silverman knows a serial killer is on the loose. The accounts of the killings

are very explicit, written in vivid, sickening detail, and the first chapters felt excessively graphic. Once the hunt for the killer begins in earnest, I was happy to leave the horror of the early murders behind.

Silverman enlists a hypnotist and psychiatrist, Erik Maria Bark, to help unlock the mystery, and Detective Joona Linna (from previous Lars Kepler novels) returns to play a starring role. Bark tries to discover clues to the killer's identity by hypnotizing a brain-damaged ex-priest who had been imprisoned for a crime similar in nature to the newest stalker-video-murders. Bark scours the broken memories of the ex-priest, wondering if he had an accomplice or if he didn't in fact commit the earlier crime and the killer has been on the loose the entire time. □

What's the Greenprint? Ask Beyoncé

By LEANNE ITALIE

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — So, what's all that Greenprint stuff on Beyoncé's Instagram feed?

Beyoncé stirred up the beehive Thursday when she advocated plant-based living in a rare social media endorsement. It helped that she also announced to her 123 million followers a sweepstakes for lifetime concert tickets to her shows or those of hubby Jay-Z after she asked the question: "What is your Greenprint?" Well, "The Greenprint" is the title of a new book by the superstar couple's personal trainer, Marco Borges, a plant-based guru who has also worked with Jennifer Lopez, Shakira, Pharrell, Diddy and Ryan Seacrest. The title refers to the impact on the planet that one can make by going plant-based. Borges, a Miami-based exercise physiologist and father of four, first got Beyoncé going with "The 22-Day Revolution" on the same subject. She and Jay-Z penned the introduction for the new book, out in time for the New Year's resolution season from the imprint Harmony Books.

We went to Borges himself to explain his approach to health, life and saving the



In this Feb. 12, 2017 file photo, Beyoncé poses in the press room at the 59th annual Grammy Awards in Los Angeles.

planet after 25 years in the business:

AP: That's some pretty good buzz Beyoncé just gave you for your book.

Borges: Yeah, it's really an amazing time right now. I have to pinch myself, honestly. I'm living a dream. It's absolutely magical. She's only done a link-in-bio once before. The first time was when she told people she was going to go vegan 44 days for Coachella. People there are going in-

sane there. We're getting emails, DMs, text messages saying, 'Oh my god, I never thought I could do this. I need some help.'

AP: What got you started on plant-based life?

Borges: I wasn't born and raised on a plant-based diet. Growing up I wanted to be a doctor but I found myself in pre-med realizing that medicine was far too reactive, that we needed a more proactive approach to wellness. I decided to

practice wellness through exercise and nutrition. As I immersed myself in all the science, the data and the clinical trials, I realized that if you were looking for optimum wellness, improved performance and your best chance of survival, you had to move toward a plant-based diet. I've been living plant-based ever since and it's been 14, 15 years now.

AP: How does your approach stand out in the

cacophony over veganism and plant-based nutrition? Borges: We have to meet people where they are. You can't expect for every single person to want to adopt a plant-based lifestyle day one. The truth is it doesn't have to be all in from the start. The Greenprint is plant-based living defined by you, whether it's one plant-based meal a day, two or three. Or just simply meatless Mondays.

AP: How do you help people ensure that they won't fail?

Borges: We've designed a step-by-step approach. It's not a one size fits all. It's customizable. We have three tiers. We guide you, provide you recipes, give you tips. We're trying to help people rewire their behavior a step at a time. What's happening is that Joe Meat Eater is coming through the door of this part and vegans are saying, 'You can't come in because you're not 100 percent vegan.' For me it's about getting people to start looking at it from whatever angle interests them, whether it's the environment or better health. We can't have a conversation if I turn you away at the door because you're not vegan.□



The shredded Banksy painting "Love is in the Bin" is being exhibited at the Museum Frieder Burda in Baden-Baden Monday Feb. 4, 2019, where the work will be shown from Feb. 5 to March 3, 2019.

Associated Press

Banksy painting that self-destructed displayed in Germany

Associated Press

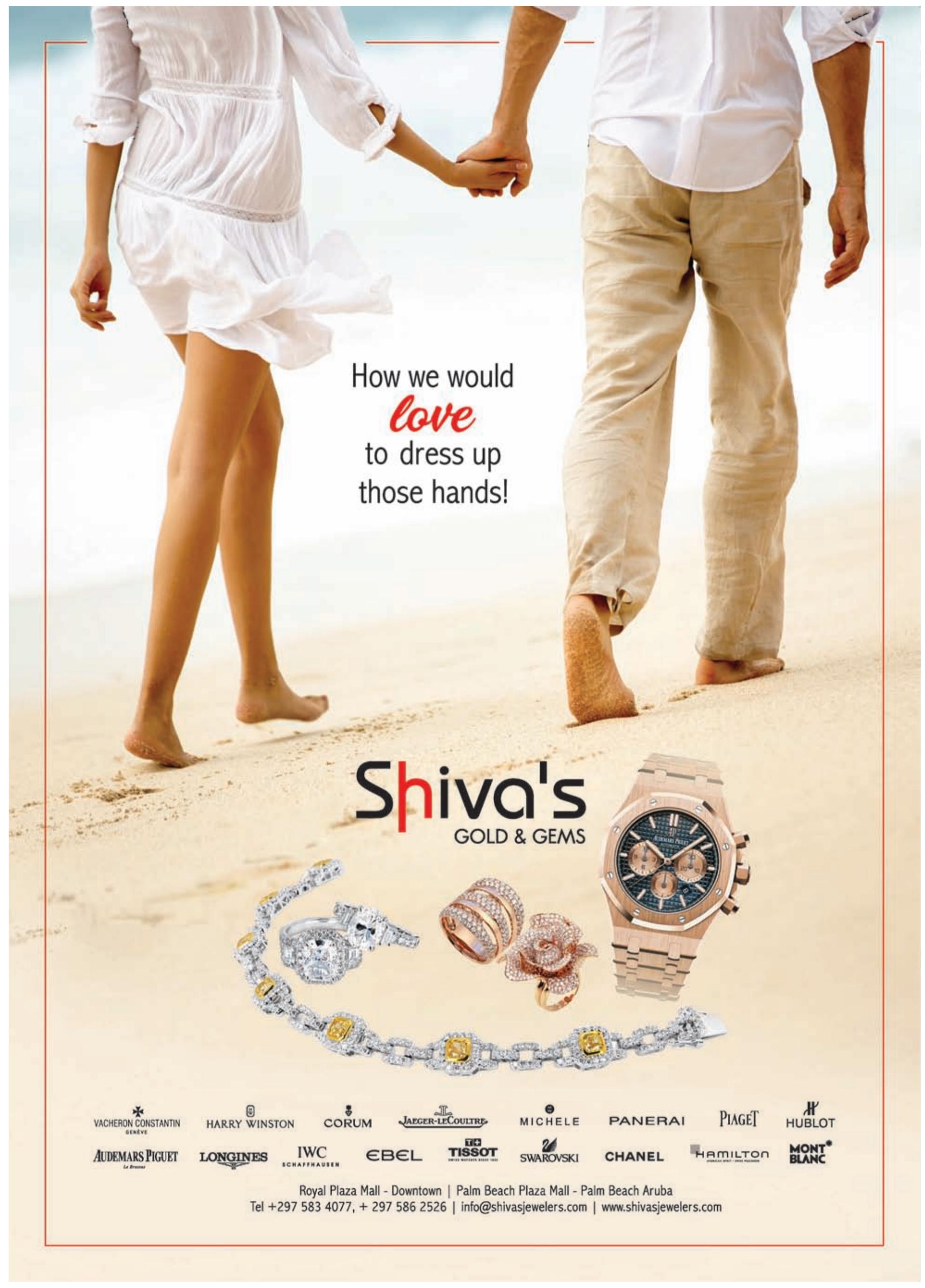
BERLIN (AP) — A Banksy painting that shocked onlookers as it partially shredded itself after being sold at auction is going on display in Germany.

The Frieder Burda museum in Baden-Baden said Monday that "Girl with Balloon," which self-destructed last year after an unidentified European collector successfully bid \$1.4 million at a Sotheby's auction, will be shown from Feb. 5 through

March 3.

The painting, retitled "Love is in the Bin" after the shredding, will then be moved to the Staatsgalerie Stuttgart museum on permanent loan.

"Girl With Balloon," which depicts a small child reaching up toward a heart-shaped red balloon, was originally stenciled on a wall in east London and has been endlessly reproduced, becoming one of Banksy's best-known images.□



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